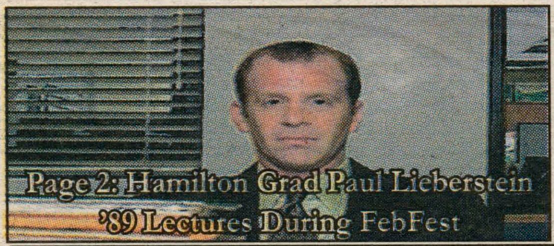

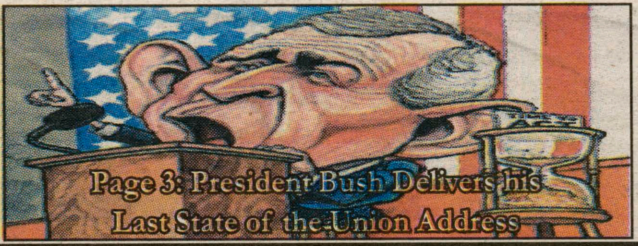

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IMF Names Of Montreal to Top 20 Albums of 2007

A Hamilton College Student Publication, Clinton, NY

February 8, 2008

Volume XLVIII Number 16

THE SPECTATOR

PHOTO COURTESY FEBFEST

FebFest Boasts Full Line-Up

By Hali Baumstein '11
News Writer

On Saturday, February 9, Hamilton will kick off its annual FebFest celebration. This year's theme, "Duel 2008," recalls the fateful duel in which our namesake Alexander Hamilton met his untimely death at the hands of Aaron Burr. The theme is revitalized with Hamilton's mascots, Al Ham the pig and Wally the Snowman, filling the shoes of Hamilton and Burr. Students can choose sides by purchasing a t-shirt with their favorite mascot in Beinecke.

Although similar events had been held on campus as early as 1938, FebFest was not officially started until 2000, when students reestablished the tradition of holding a winter carnival. Eight years later, the event remains student-run. This year, it is co-chaired by Anne Murphy'08 and Emily Pallin'08. The many festivities planned for this week-long event are intended to brighten up the Hill in the midst of the gray and gloomy February weather.

FebFest will officially begin on Saturday at 11 a.m., with HAVOC's Valentine's Day Party in the Events Barn with children from the Neighborhood Center in Utica. Later, students will have the opportunity to receive a cooking lesson in McEwen from Bon Appetit chefs. At night, CAB will present a comedy show featuring Greg Giraldo of Comedy Central's Indecision Tour 2008. The College Choir's production of the musical "West Side Story" will run over the weekend. Show times are at 8 p.m. this Friday and Saturday, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday.

Sunday's activities will begin with snowy touch football games that are open to everyone. In the evening, tastetesters participating in Pizza Wars will have the power to decide which pizza place in the area makes the very best.

Monday's highlights include intramural snowy soccer—or snoccer—tournaments, Mexican food night at Commons, a wine tasting with Professor Steve Yao, and an ice skating party -including hot chocolate and cookies- at Sage Rink.

Snoccer tournaments will continue on Tuesday. Tuesday will also feature Thanksgiving-themed dinner at McEwen, trivia night in the Pub, and an a cappella concert in the Chapel featuring Special K, the Hamiltones, and Tumbling After.

Fans of NBC's hit show "The Office" will be excited to see one of its writers and actors come to the Hill on Wednesday. Although many students now identify him as Toby, the character he plays

*See **FebFest**, page 2*

KJ Construction & Other Renovation Projects

By Amanda Jordan '10
News Writer

For Dark Side residents, hearing and seeing the progress of the Kirner-Johnson construction is a daily event. But what is really going on behind the tarps? According to Steve Bellona, Associate Vice President for Facilities and Planning, construction is proceeding on schedule.

On Thursday, February 7, the construction staff poured the second floor deck concrete slab, and by the end of the week, they will install the remainder of the roof insulation for the center commons roof. In addition, the copper surrounds of the windows on the building's west side, and the first of the exterior windows will be installed this week. The precast concrete exterior panels will arrive next week for installation on the west side of the building. Inside the building, construction staff members have placed the main electrical and mechanical equipment, and advancement has been made on interior partitions, wiring, duct work, insulation, and wall board.

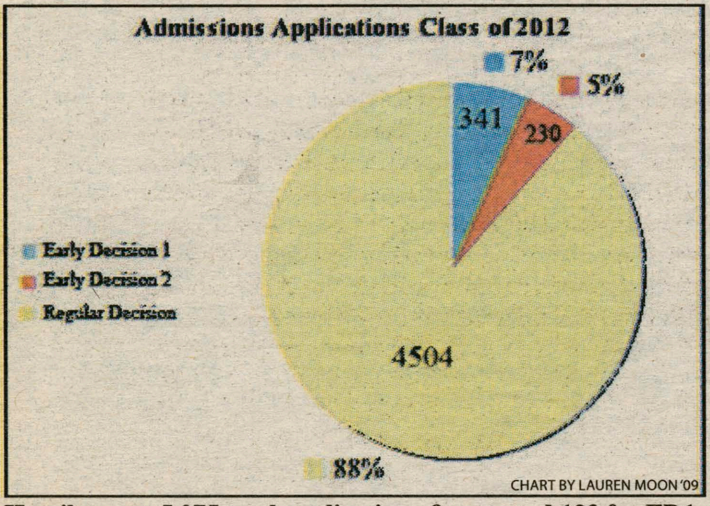
Bellona said, "We have a tight schedule, but the teamwork from each of the contractors has been remarkable. They have continued to work hard to resolve concerns as they develop and create solutions that have kept us on schedule." The winter weather certainly has not helped speed up the construction. Until the weather becomes warmer, the construction crew cannot place the final roofing membranes.

*See **Construction**, page 2*

PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING '09

The KJ addition carries on through winter as planned.

Early Decision Notification for the Class of 2012



Hamilton got 5,075 total applications & accepted 133 for ED1.

By Eloise Walter '11
News Writer

The Early Decision Round I letters for the Hamilton College Bicentennial Class of 2012 have been mailed. 133 students were admitted out of a competitive pool of 341 Early Decision Round I applications. Dean of Admission and Financial Aid Monica Inzer described this year's Early Decision applicants as "academically strong and diverse." She said that, "the number, quality, diversity, and overall strength of this year's ED applicants are very similar to last year's record class." Inzer noted the geographic reach of the ED I accepted students, hailing from all northeastern states along with CO, CA, FL, MI, NM, OH, OK, TX, WA, China and London.

Hamilton's regular decision application deadline was January 1. For the first time ever, Hamilton received over 5,000 applications, totaling 5,075 candidates for the class of 2012. This figure compares to Hamilton's previous high of 4,961 applicants for the class of 2011, a 16% increase compared to two years ago.

For the next few months, the admissions and financial aid staff have no time to spare. "Having many applicants to choose from is one thing; choosing the right ones, and getting them to choose us, is yet another," said Inzer of the hard decisions she and her staff must make. Admissions will mail Regular Decision letters on March 28, and applicants have until May 1 to reply. By April, accepted freshmen will attend the Admitted Student Open House to visit The Hill one last time before making their decisions.

"Everyone in the Hamilton community has a great deal of

*See **2012**, page 2*

Cold Does Not Freeze Construction Progress

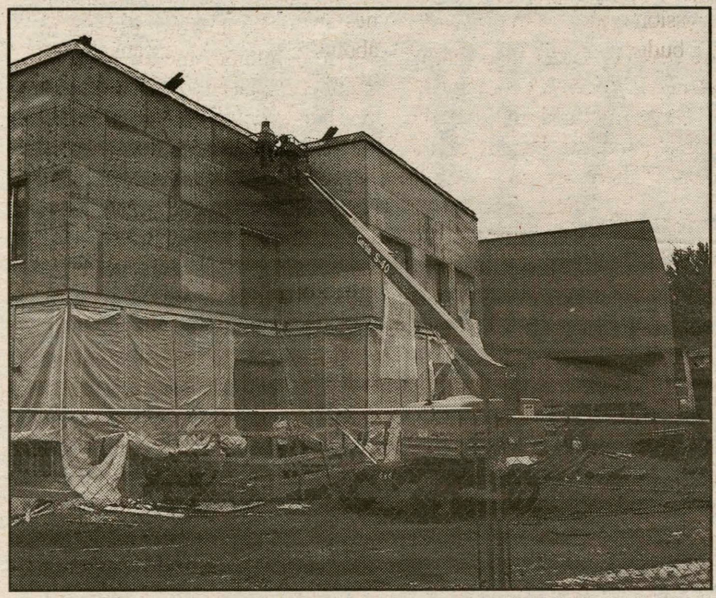


PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING '09

The Construction staff poured the second floor deck concrete slab this week and is scheduled to begin window frame installations next week.

From Construction, page 1

However, until then, temporary rubber membranes are being installed on top of the insulation to protect the building from the weather.

Even though the cold and snowy weather presents additional concerns and obstacles, the construction is on schedule, and future plans for the Kirner-Johnson renovation are in the works. Specifically, from May 19, 2008 to August 22, 2008, a complete renovation of the Kirner-Johnson Auditorium is expected. During this time, Phase One of the KJ Addition will be completed, and on July 28, 2008, assigned centers and departments will move into the addition. On August 4, 2008, Phase Two of the KJ renovation will begin, and is anticipated to last until June 26, 2009. On June 29, 2009, the History and Sociology departments are expected to move into Kirner-Johnson.

Besides the Kirner-Johnson construction, numerous other construction projects are expected for this summer. Some of these projects include renovating the kitchens and bathrooms in Milbank Residence Hall, rebuilding the stone arches at Bristol Center, installing the rest of the card access readers, and installing new exterior windows in Cooper Hall. Furthermore, the roof of Milbank, the flooring on the second floor of Dunham Residence Hall, the side entry steps to Buttrick Hall, and the flooring in Keehn Residence Hall will all be replaced. Also, renovation of Physical Plant buildings will start this summer, along with approximately twenty-five other smaller construction projects that will be funded with renewal funds.

Steve Bellona and other members of the Facilities and Planning Committee will continue to inform the Hamilton community about the progress of the Kirner-Johnson construction and other projects on campus. Bellona commented, "I have been very pleased with the positive attitude the campus has shown through the entire construction process. Despite the disruptions, the Campus Community has been very flexible, patient, and responsive." Those interested in viewing the progress of the Kirner-Johnson construction can visit http://my.hamilton.edu/webcam/kj.html to see a webcam view of the construction site.

Eight Days of FebFest Offer Wide Array of Events

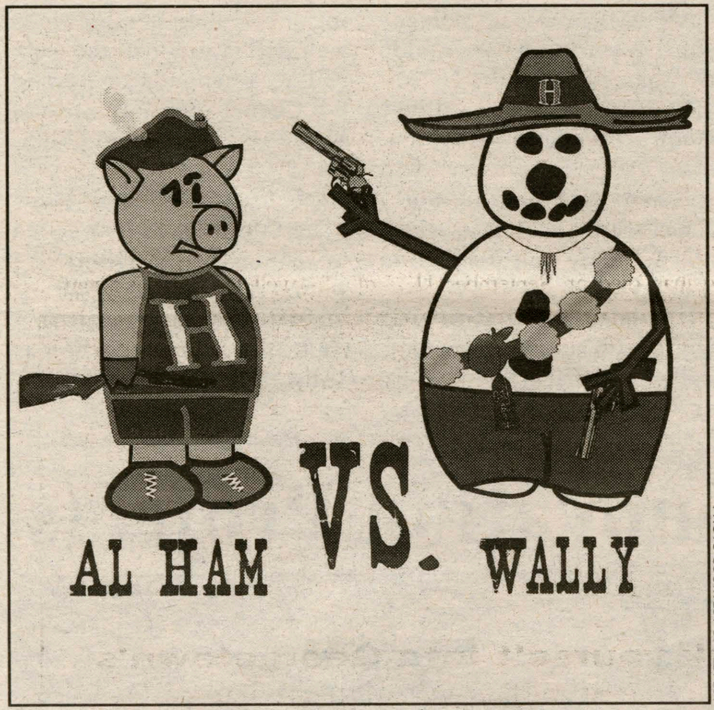


PHOTO COURTESY OF FEBFEST

From FebFest, page 1

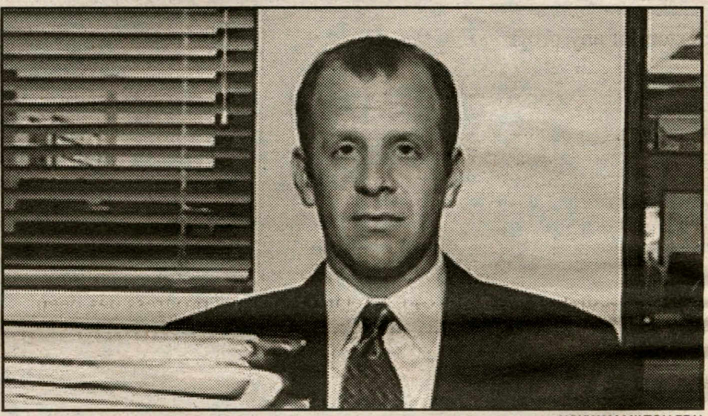
on the show, Paul Lieberstein '89 was an economics major at Hamilton who intended to follow a business career path. His CAB-sponsored lecture entitled "From Clinton, N.Y., to The Office," will focus on the journey that led him to Emmy-winning TV shows. Wednesday will also provide a Valentine-making session in Commons, a beer tasting with drinks provided by Saranac Brewery, and a midnight waffle bar.

Students can get into the Valentine's Day spirit on Thursday by picking up hot cocoa in the Mail Center and by attending Commons' Valentine's Day dinner. That night, the Womyn's Center will present "The Vagina Monologues" in the Events Barn. Furthermore, seniors will be able to celebrate their last FebFest at Karaoke Night in the Pub.

A snow sculpture contest on the North Quad will begin next Friday's events, followed by a chocolate tasting in the Science Center Atrium and a special fireworks show on the Royce Baseball Field. Highland Heath and Holler will give a concert in Wellin Hall Friday evening as well.

FebFest will end on Saturday February 16 with a chili cook-off, a scavenger hunt, and a Spanish beer and tapas tasting in the Pub. The final event will be a CAB-sponsored concert in the Annex featuring indie rock band The National.

To take part in the festivities next week, students can purchase buttons for $5 in Beinecke that will assure entry into all events. With such a jam-packed schedule, this year's FebFest promises to provide fun events for all.



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Paul Lieberstein '89 will visit during FebFest to present a lecture titled, "From Clinton N.Y. to *The Office*."

SA Update

For Past 3 Weeks

1. Since it is the beginning of a new administration, one of the biggest tasks in the first couple of weeks is getting the SA up and running. I am proud to say that as of last week the SA is completely operational. Almost every open position has been filled, and the Committees are meeting and getting to work on some very important issues.

2. At our second meeting, the SA passed unanimously a resolution "Mourning the loss of former President Harry C. "Hank" Payne and celebrating his life and service"

a. In conjunction with this resolution, VP Will Bauder '10 and I sent a personal letter to Deborah Payne (Dr. Payne's wife) expressing the Hamilton community's condolences and deepest admiration for Dr. Payne.

3. Currently, Will and I are in the middle of reforming/adding to many of the SA's practices. The end goal is to create a more serious, result-focused assembly that passes resolutions. These changes will be implemented over the next couple of weeks.

4. Currently, the SA is discussing the details of online course evaluations. In the next couple of semesters the College will move from in-class evaluations to online evaluations. The program has already been implemented for over 80 faculty members, and the results from the early parts of the program are being assessed. The major issue at stake now is the lower response rate being recorded for online evaluations versus in-class evaluations. Given the lower response rate, the faculty is considering numerous options to drive up the response rate (disincentives/incentives). The SA is deeply involved in this discussion and is working to devise the best possible solution that satisfies both the students' and faculty's needs.

-SA President Stephen Okin '10 & SA VP Will Bauder '10

Miss the Media Fair?

It is not too late to write for news this semester!

e-mail

mjreed and erosenbe

Early Decision

From Early Decision, page 1

which to be proud," remarked Inzer. The Admissions Office is particularly grateful for partnerships with student tour guides, senior interns, faculty and various departments and offices, and would like to thank everyone that supports the efforts of the Admissions office. Inzer and her staff are currently in the midst of selecting from this year's 230 Early Decision Round II applicants.

The State of the (Iraqi) Union

by Max Currier '10
Insights & Ideas Contributor

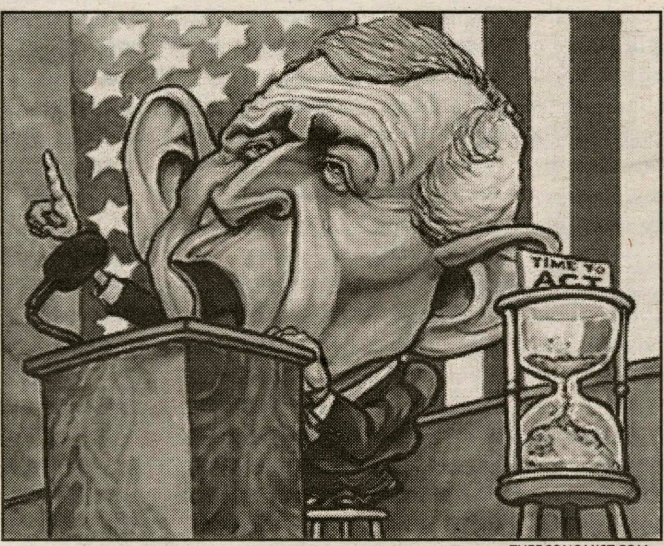
On January 28 President Bush delivered his final State of the Union address wearing—as the on-strike writers of *The Daily Show* wrote—"a blue tie the exact shade of America's current malaise." The past year in Iraq received little more attention than rhetorical variances of "stay the course."

America has seemingly become so numb to the quibbling over Iraq—or felt that the media and politicians have been analytically superficial, intentionally deceptive—that it seems necessary for each American, here in the world's capital of ethnocentrism, to take a good look out the window.

The surge was intended to reduce physical violence for the express purpose of political and economic progress. Bush said that the results would be evident by fall. To keep tabs, Congress tied a series of benchmarks to a May 2007 appropriations bill; success or failure on each benchmark would show the extent of any progress. In the final Congressional report in September, the GAO found that five of the benchmarks the administration said were achieved had, in fact, not been: Iraq had met only one of eight legislative benchmarks, two of nine security benchmarks, and zero economic benchmarks.

A BBC poll showed 70 percent of Iraqis thought security deteriorated since the surge. Only 29 percent were optimistic that life would improve—down from 64 percent a year earlier. The president has not yet learned that the insurgency is fueled by US troops very presence—whether called "liberators" or not.

The most recent news from Iraq is that Parliament passed a bill essentially reversing the de-Baathification order issued in May 2003 by Ambassador Bremer. Under Saddam, Baathist membership was a prerequisite for upper-level government service, and—surprise—the de-Baathification order effectively disbanded the Iraqi government. According to some, the new law will allow about 130,000 former officials to return to work and collect salaries or pensions. Bush's address suggested the current bill represents landmark progress. Hmm…



THEECONOMIST.COM

The Washington Post reports that the implementation of the bill, described by one senior US diplomat as "about as clear as mud," may actually *increase* sectarian violence. Predictably dismissive, Secretary Rice says progress has been slow, but progress has been made nonetheless. Even if that were so, America must remember this war currently costs about 36 American lives and $12 billion per month. Price check—actually, since we're in a recession, maybe not.

Sadly, all the consequences of "failure" that administration officials claim will destroy Iraq should America withdraw—civil war, mass sectarian violence, and ethnic cleansing—has already happened. A January 2007 National Intelligence Estimate would not label the situation in Iraq a civil war only because the term "does not adequately capture the complexity of the conflict in Iraq"—i.e., over the last year it's been *worse*. Ultimately, America must regain its generous, diplomatic touch instead of bludgeoning others into submission with a $450 billion defense budget—larger than that of all America's enemies combined.

Those inclined to give the administration the benefit of the doubt—if there are any—stretch their credibility. The administration was wrong when they claimed Saddam had ties to al Qaeda, when they claimed Saddam had weapons of mass destruction, when they claimed US forces would be greeted as liberators, when they said there wasn't an insurgency and then claimed it was in its "last throes," when they claimed the situation was not a "civil war," when they said the generals had sufficient troops, when they gave Paul Bremer the Presidential Medal of Freedom, when they declared "Mission Accomplished," when they said that the United States was winning—they don't get to make predictions anymore.

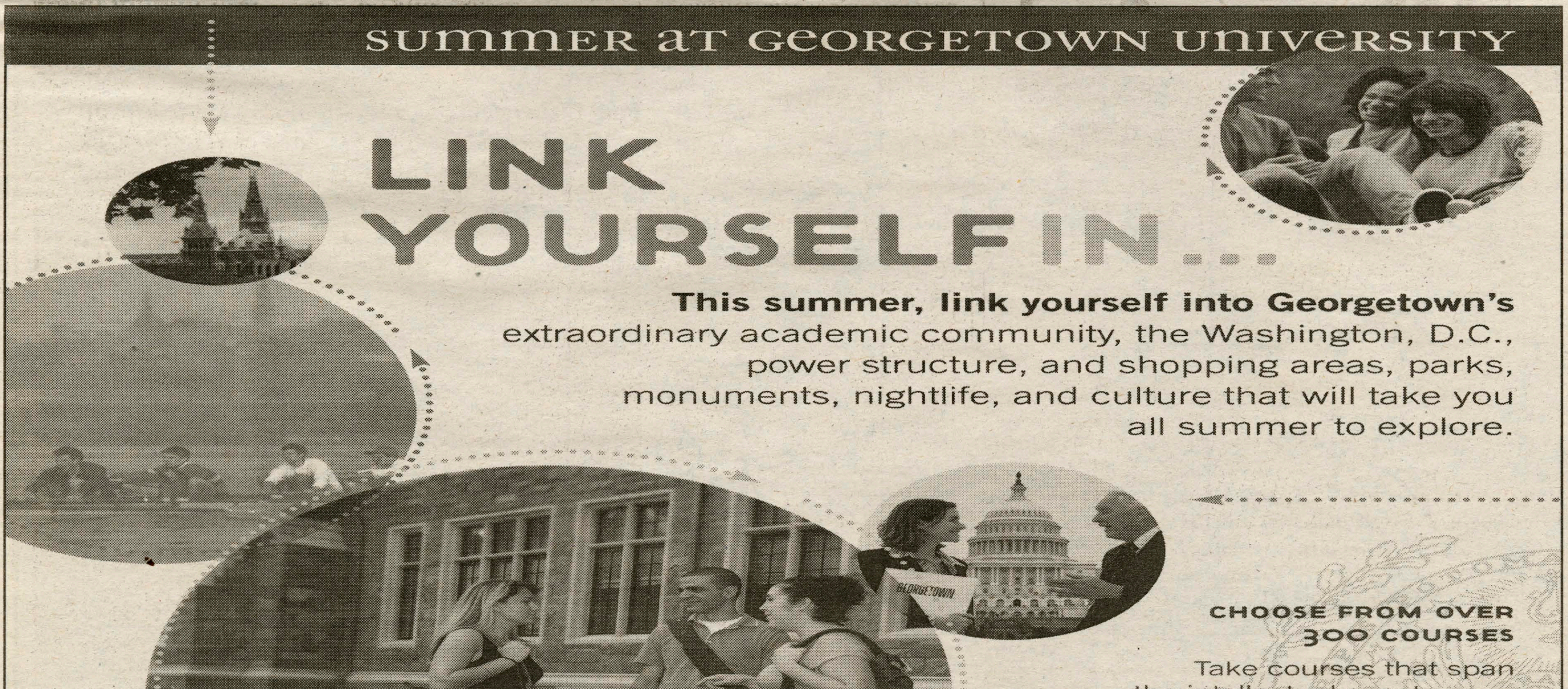
The United States military has now been in Iraq over a year longer than it was involved in World War II. More Americans have died in Iraq than died on September 11. Proportionate to the US population, the number of Iraqi civilian casualties since the invasion equates to about one million Americans and the number displaced equates to almost one hundred million. That casualty number is equivalent to over three hundred 9/11 attacks.

Look out the window: it's raining a firestorm of bullets. Off in the distance, President Bush is dancing through the downpour with his trademark umbrella of ignorance convinced his unwavering dedication will someday vindicate him.

But if Iraq should, miraculously, become a flourishing democracy it will not be because this administration has forced it at gunpoint. Incidentally, for a president that talks so much of democracy, why does he care so little about his 29% percent approval rating? It seems our only net export is democracy.

How did we get here in the first place? Long story short: a recent Center for Public Integrity study finds that the Bush administration made at least 945 false statements to justify the invasion. Words cannot adequately describe the perplexity, anger, and disappointment we should all feel upon hearing that.

A January 29 *Washington Post* editorial notes that Bush's final State of the Union was "not a reflective valedictory—a wise choice, because an honest assessment of the past seven years would have been a tale of…" – well, the above is a start.



Letter to the Editor

Occasionally when I'm lobbying someone my candidate -Barack Obama- someone will ask me if I'm a government major. This strikes me as a silly question. That anyone who cares about politics be cast into a certain corner of the academy is bizarre in itself. That open political discourse on this campus is rare is bizarre. Marx defined our humanity on the terms that we labour beyond what is necessary for our survival; that is, our humanity is essentially alienated if we are separated from what matters to us when we are not working.

In one sense, then, it shouldn't be disturbing that much of our generation does not find any interest in the political. Raised with images of politics as something that happens on television - as real as *Lost* or *The OC* - we are, in a greater sense, alienated from ourselves. The spirit of good government is not in Chris Matthews and Wolf Blitzer. It is (paraphrasing Tip O'Neil), local. Political discourse should be an end in itself, vital to our humanity within society. If we do not care about our politics, our politics will not care about us. They will cease to be our own. To some degree, the citizen was alienated from American politics generations ago. But we can always hope.

Both my parents were too young to remember when JFK was shot, or to care much when Bobby followed. The reaction is different for people five or ten years older. The worship of their images in the decades since have obscured their public images. Robert Kennedy might have been different; but certainly JFK's term was marred by a series of mistakes, mainly in the area of foreign policy. Richard Nixon was certainly the more effective president.

How is it, then, that JFK's legacy was one of public service and idealism while Nixon's was one of disengagement from public life? How was Jimmy Carter able to bewail the "American malaise," yet do nothing to stop it? One of the local Democrats who comes to my meetings put it best. "He wasn't like a normal politician. I knew lifelong Republicans who were inspired to spend their nights doing *pro bono* legal work in Harlem."

These were Nixon voters. JFK - despite the irregularities of his election - had the ability to reach across America's divides and inspire individual citizens to make the political their own. JFK at least kept the *perception* of honesty, and that meant something. The ability to inspire can be more powerful than a resume.

Barack Obama has inspired the young and old across America in ways Bill Bradley or Howard Dean could only dream of. It's no surprise that Obama reminds people of Jack and Bobby. No one in forty years has spoken so loudly for an interest in government as an agent of larger good. We must hold onto his language. Politics - the government in general - should not be a simple means to an end or a necessary evil. I believe that the process of public engagement is as important a thing as the results of government itself.

We are not a simple amalgamation of individuals. Engagement in political discourse gives us a stake in our own societies much greater than simply walking amongst our peers. We suddenly care about the thoughts of others and learn to see our own faults in the process. Government is a means of turning this political discourse into negotiated action. The self-centred scepticism of the Reagan generation was misfired. It has only led to the full-scale exploitation of government for private interest; a hijacking of the public sphere.

Of course, our government has long been commandeered by more specific interests than the common good or a public discourse; discourse alone will not fix it. A single Obama administration will not save Washington, nor could a hundred. But in our own community - Hamilton College - political discourse still matters. Government is more than a major or a gateway toward a career for one's own good. It is a matter of vital importance to us all. The hope for American politics lies in the spirit of informed discussion. We can make our politics our own if we bring them into our own lives - off the television screen and into open conversation.

-Chris Parmenter '10
Head of Students for Barack Obama

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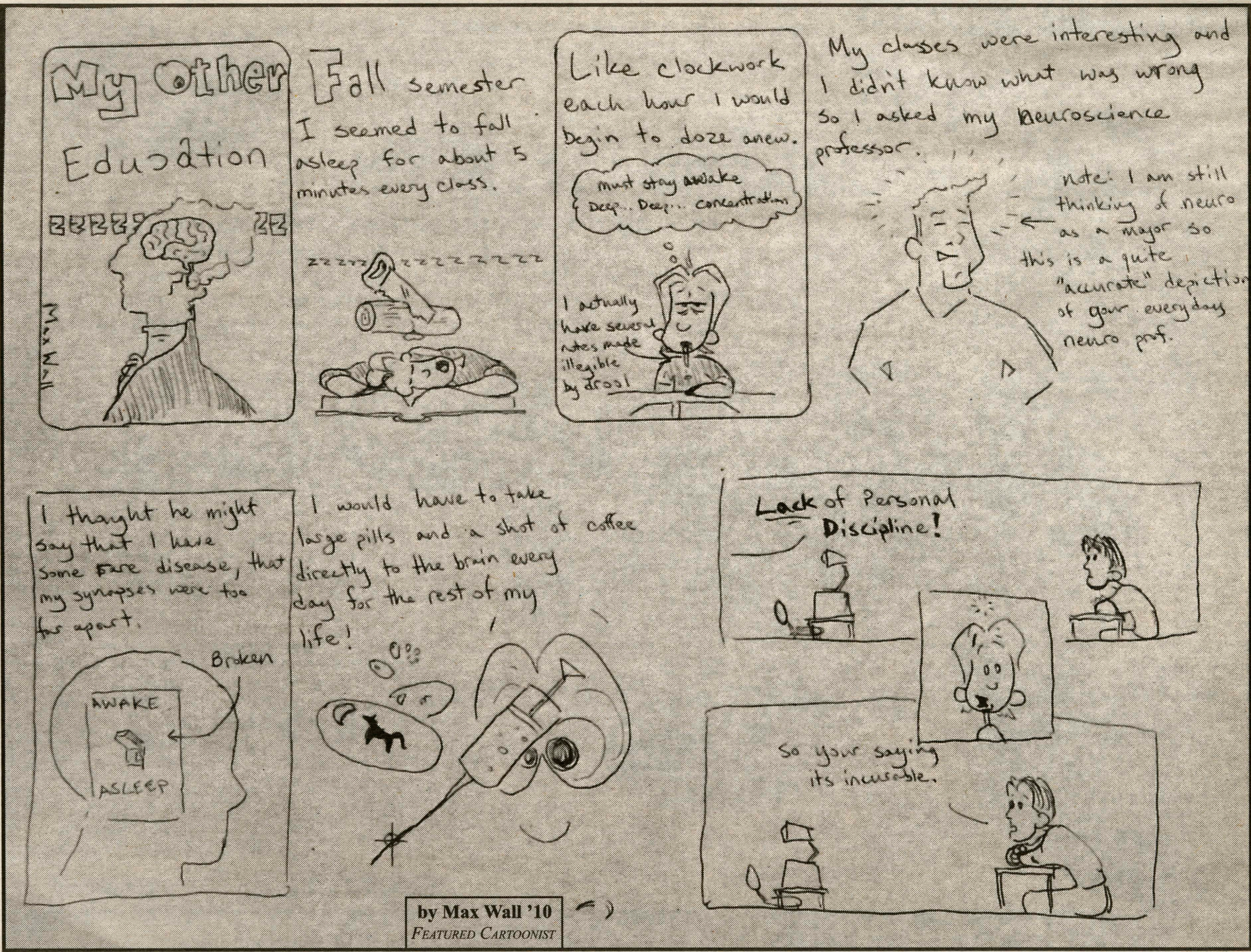

by Max Wall '10
Featured Cartoonist

THE SPECTATOR

Regulations vs. Practicality

Does Campus Safety strike the right balance?

Along with being challenging, motivating, and impressive, Hamilton's close and safe community becomes apparent with even the shortest visit to campus. Unlike my friends on bigger campuses, I'm not constantly worried about the safety of my belongings and myself. I consider myself lucky to attend a school where I can be out alone and not need the pepper spray my friends and I all got as going away presents from our overprotective parents.

This sense of security is due largely in part to the campus safety officers we have on campus. It's more than comforting to know that these officers are willing to provide students with an escort at any hour, in addition to providing a multitude of services to protect the security that is created by the community of students and faculty here at Hamilton. I have an even deeper gratitude for our campus safety. As a freshman, I'm not allowed to have a car on campus. However, my extenuating circumstances have made having my car a necessity. Campus Safety has been understanding and allowed me to park my car on campus. This privilege is extended to a few freshmen every year, and I was fortunate enough to be one of them and happily accepted the parking permit, even if it meant I had to park in North Lot.

I have discussed with other friends that have cars on campus the inconvenience of walking from North Lot to Wertimer, where we live, in the dark, cold, and snow. While grateful for being allowed to park on campus at all, it's hard not to be tempted to park in the nearly empty lot next to our house. Despite the lot being nearly empty, it's inevitable that we will find one, two, or even three parking tickets if we park there, and many of us have.

With last semester's "incidents" and "hateful acts" here at Hamilton, it's understandable that students wonder if the best course of action is being taken. I have no doubt that keeping the entire campus safe is a strenuous task and requires massive amounts of energy and dedication. This is why I ask if it is really in the best interest of every member of the Hamilton community for Campus Safety to enforce simple traffic laws. I can't believe that allowing the four freshmen in Wertimer with cars to park in the empty spaces near their house will greatly affect the safety of other people on campus when other areas actually require attention.

Where can we draw the line between enforcing rules because they are genuinely useful and protective and enforcing rules just because they are rules? It's definitely hard to decide, but this line does exist. Sometimes, it makes more sense to abandon the rules for a more practical approach.

by Kate Tummarello '11
Science & Technology Editor

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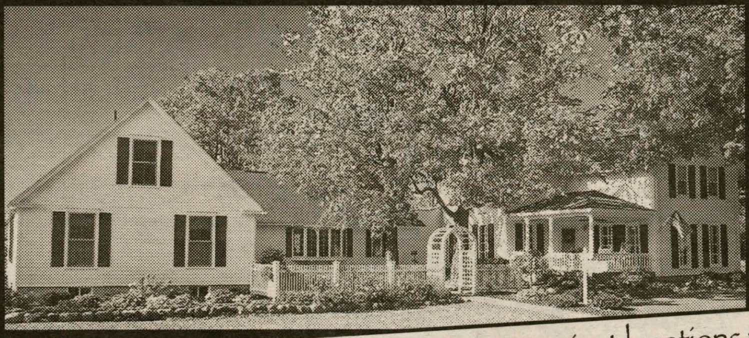

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They Promised Me Snow

by Scott Bixby '11
Insights & Ideas Editor

There was only one commonality shared between all the colleges that I applied to last year. Between all the different time zones, different settings, and different levels of schmoozing I had to do to gain entrance, every one of the places that I applied to had snow. Snow: that beautiful, fluffy, vaguely foreign substance which a kid from the Arizona desert could only dream about... it was my destiny. I was going to snowboard every day, and make snowmen and snowwomen and transnowsexuals, and I was going to drink hot chocolate while wearing a scarf. I'd never worn a scarf before.

Now, as I look at the rain pouring outside, and at my thoroughly unused, obscenely expensive snow jacket, I wonder: where in the hell is my freaking blizzard?

Yeah, yeah, upperclassmen, I know about the Valentine's Day Class Five Killstorm last year, which closed down the school and served as the first sign of the coming Apocalypse. I understand that five feet of snow on the ground when you have three minutes to get across campus to a Bio midterm is daunting, frustrating, and a little dangerous. But please, understand *me*, a nineteen year old who has woken up to a snow day only once in his life. I've had school cancelled because of acts of war more often than snow.

When I found out about last spring's snow, it pushed the scales into Hamilton College's *favor* for me. I found the idea of freakish amounts of snowfall almost magical. I was proud when I told my friends about Hamilton, because while they were loafing around in Southern California without seasons or cloud cover, I was going to be battling the elements. Their colleges had laundry service? Well, my dorm room had a *fireplace*, (I left out the part about the fireplace being filled with plaster).

> "When I found out about last spring's snow, it pushed the scales into Hamilton College's favor."

And now, after claiming that I went to school in the Arctic Circle, I have to crack a window when I sleep so that I don't sweat. What happened? I feel like that polar bear in *An Inconvenient Truth*, slowly paddling in a lukewarm ocean, wondering where my beautiful frozen water has gone. With every snowflake I see twirling from the sky, I completely lose focus on whatever I'm doing, hoping against hope that this one snowflake will be the first in a deluge, an unstoppable torrent of snow, which will bury the campus like that library in *The Day After Tomorrow*.

At the beginning of the year, when I first saw snow fall from the sky, I hurled myself from my bunk and ran outside without shoes on. Twenty minutes later, with muddy feet and ruddy cheeks, I walked inside, wearing a wide grin. Immediately, I was chastised by a jaded upperclassman, who told me "I can't wait till it's so cold you cry." Hypothermia may have been setting in, because I responded, "Well, that's what I *wanted!*"

So, upperclassmen and East Coasters, the next time you're thanking the almighty for this perpetual mud and drizzle instead of the Winter Wonderland we were promised, remember that the intense, unrelenting, soul-crushing snow is a part of Hamilton itself. It is a part that, as of now, we freshmen haven't yet experienced.

The Truth Has No Author

The Gossip Box

"China Sea, Triad Too?"

The Rumor

Hamilton College's favorite Chinese food restaurant, China Sea, is not only the campus' largest provider of midnight lo mein and crispy orange chicken. Though disguised as a delicious small-town restaurant, China Sea is actually a front for the Central New York branch of the Triad Society, an organized crime syndicate based in mainland China.

The Evidence

The per capita income of residents of Clinton, New York is $26,165, according to the United States Census. It can be agreed upon that the yearly income of a delivery boy for China Sea would probably be much less than that, most likely along the lines of minimum wage plus tips. Yet somehow, the delivery boys for China Sea ferry the restaurant's food in white BMW M3's, the paragon of German vehicular engineering. These beautiful cars retails in the United States for $72,900. Even on eBay, you'll have to drop over sixty grand for one of these babies. Hamilton students can't be tipping *that* well. Given the well-known fact that the Utica area (and police department) has a longstanding relationship with organized crime, a small satellite branch of the Triads, called a "tong," is not beyond the realm of possibility. Anyone who has eaten at Ancora and watched *The Godfather* playing on a loop has seen the connection between organized crime and food service in action.

The Conclusion

The presence of a Chinese crime syndicate in close adjacency to Hamilton is a result of a combination of factors, including the large immigrant population of Oneida County and the perceived room for competition with the Utican Cosa Nostra. Most notably, however, is the presence of a large, well-moneyed potential clientele of the organization right up the Hill. Who else would the Triads be selling drugs to?

THE GOSSIP BOX IS A GOSSIP PAGE WHICH PUBLISHES RUMORS AND CONJECTURE IN ADDITION TO ACCURATELY REPORTED FACTS. INFORMATION HERE MAY OR MAY NOT BE TRUE AND THE SPECTATOR MAKES NO CLAIM AS TO ITS VALIDITY.

Thumbs up

Watching all of New England cry. Sorry Ali and Liza, better luck next year!

Women's Basketball celebrates an undefeated weekend. If you're going to a crappy safety school like Clarkson or St. Lawrence, shouldn't you at least be good at sports? Oh. Guess not.

Free New York Times in Commons and McEwen. Thanks for the free paper, bitches!

Watching people slip and fall all over campus. Nothing raises your spirits more than other people's misery.

Thumbs down

Pizza Place Super Pie Challenge... really? Because I have a challenge for you: deliver my food in under 90 minutes.

Finally admitting to the rats in Commons... so, once this problem is under control, can we expect more "chicken?"

KSA tries to host a rave. I'm sorry, but does Talbots make rave clothing?

This year's Super Bowl. Nothing says pain-in-the-ass like Patriots and Giants fans fighting all night. Neither of your teams have Ray Lewis, and he kills people, (allegedly).

4:20am Milbank fire alarm. Listen campus safety, there is only one thing baking at that hour and I don't think it's cookies, but nice try.

Who Cares

Choir to perform West Side Story... just what this campus needs, more gang violence.

Ash Wednesday... do you really think those ashes are going to keep you out of Hell? Last time I checked, you're still a whore, and they go to Hell.

I don't care how much art homework you have, you just drew 100 pears, 99 of which look like penises, which I hear Tom Brady likes in his mouth.

What you're pledging. You can be pledging Gamma Xi or AD but you're still someone's bitch.

by Sarah Cornblath '08 & Anthony DelConte '10

NICK'S

New York Pizza & Deli

Justice.... Any Way You Slice It

PASTA IN A BUCKET · KIDS · ITALIAN MEAL

Finally....

Great Taste & Good For You!

The ONLY Pizzeria in the Area Offering

Whole Wheat Pizza & Pasta

PASTA IN A BUCKET

Starting at $9.99

Whole Wheat Pasta Also Available!

All New- Party Bucket Size

- Chicken Riggies in A Bucket
- Bucket of Linguini
- Bucket of Rigatoni
- Baked Ziti in A Bucket

Appetizers

Popcorn Chicken..........$5.99

Mozzarella Sticks (6)
Breaded, deep fried & served with our homemade sauce..........$5.99

Chicken Fingers (5)
Breaded, boneless chicken breast deep fried & served with sauce of choice....$6.99

Onion Rings..........$3.99

French Fries..........$2.99

Nick's Greens
Sauteed escarole with cherry peppers, prosciutto, italian seasoned bread crumbs & too much garlic..........$9.99

Garlic Bread
sm..........$1.50..........lg..........$2.50

By Court Order: Friday Fish Specials

Fish Fry
Beer Battered and served with fries & cole slaw..........market price

Fish Sandwich
Served with fries..........market price

Panko Fish Fry
Br●aded with japanese bread crumbsand deep fried.Served with fries & cole slaw..........market price

Our Famous Coconut Shrimp
Pan fried and served with fries and cocktail sauce for dipping.......market price

Specialty Rolls

Please call ahead for these items.

Sausage Roll..........$12.99
Spinach Roll..........$12.99
Broccoli Roll..........$12.99
Antipasto Roll..........$14.99

Whole wheat dough offered upon availability.

Tomato Pie-	*1/2 tray*	*$8.00*
	full tray	*$12.00*

VISA · MasterCard · American Express Card

From The Sub Station

Cold Subs

	1/2 - Whole
Ham	$4.99-$6.50
Turkey	$4.99-$6.50
Roast Beef	$5.99-$6.99
Salami	$4.99-$6.50
Mixed Italian Combo	$4.99-$6.50
Tuna Fish	$4.99-$6.50

All subs include lettuce, tomatoes, onions and american cheese.

911 Hot Tunnels

Sausage	$4.99-$6.50
Meatball	$4.99-$6.50
Veal Parmigiana	$4.99-$6.50
Chicken Parmigiana	$4.99-$6.50
Philly Cheesesteak	$6.99-$8.99
Buffalo Chicken	$5.99-$6.99

Our Famous East Utica Steak Sandwich
Filet smothered with Italian long hots, onions, mozzarella.Served on our own garlic bread..........$12.99

Hot peppers, sweet peppers, onions, mushrooms available on request. .49 extra

On The Wrap Sheet

All wraps come with fries & pickle.

Ham	$5.99
Turkey	$5.99
Roast Beef	$5.99
Salami	$5.99
Tuna Fish	$5.99
Chicken	$5.99
Chicken Ceasar	$6.99
Steak Wrap	$6.99

Pizza

Cheese..........$6.99-$10.50

Garlic..........$6.99-$10.50

Al Capone
Ricotta Cheese, Roasted Red Peppers & Eggplant..........$14.99

Elliot Ness BBQ Chicken
BBQ sauce, chicken breast,onions & mozzarella..........$15.99

Death Row Meat Lovers
Pepperoni, sausage, meatballs & mozzarella..........$16.50

Solitary Confinement Veggie Pie
Mushrooms, onions, peppers, olives & tomatoes with mozzarella..........$17.99

Witness Protection Chicken Wing Pizza
Chicken breast, mozzarella & spicy buffalo wing sauce (mild, med, hot)..........$15.99

Da Works
Pepperoni, peppers, onions, mushrooms, sausage & tomatoes..........$16.99

Additional Toppings: add $1.00-sm. $1.50-lg.

Whole wheat pizza dough offered upon availability.

Wings

10	$6.75
20	$8.50
30	$12.50
40	$15.50
50	$18.50
100	$34.99

Blue cheese & celery $1.50

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Under House Arrest?

We Deliver to the Dorms!

Welcome to the Haute Life: An Interview with Ursula Damani of Harper's Bazaar

by Nonyelum Chizea '08
Fashion Columnist

I am here at Hearst Corporation to interview someone whom I admire, **Ursula Damani**, the Executive Editorial Assistant to **Glenda Bailey**, the Editor-in-Chief of *Harper's Bazaar*. I know Mrs. Damani through a cold call and another friend at *Bazaar* **Courtney Kryston**, the Fashion Closet Manager and former intern of Mrs. Damani.

I was supposed to be here on time at 6:30 p.m. for a 7:00 p.m. interview, but you know the Manhattan metro system always has some sort of delay. I look at my BlackBerry and it is 6:56 p.m. as I sit downstairs in the first green building in Manhattan and first skyscraper to break ground since 9/11. I'm late, but is it all right? Who knows! I just hope that I will be forgiven for my tardiness.

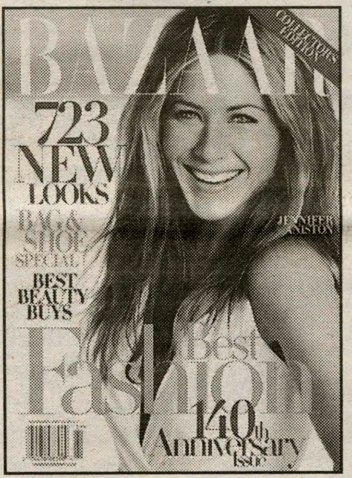
Less than two seconds after dwelling on being late, I look up and **David Richards** is here to escort me upstairs. As we chitchat, I learn that David is a native Londoner like myself and is a Fashion Photographer interning for Mrs. Damani and Mrs. Bailey. We arrive on the 25th Floor and I can already feel the business of Bazaar. I see Mrs. Damani talking across the room to other editors and fashion people, a rack of clothing is being hauled into the fashion closet by interns and the messenger just dropped off some samples. Yup, this is it the *HauteLife* many of you aspire to become a part of. This should be fun.

Hautelife- what is it? It is fashion and it is everywhere you turn, from the sweater your mother picked out for you when you were five, to the shoes your best friend wears to parties. Someone in the fashion industry picked out the material, the design, the color and put it in a magazine so that you could see it, love it, and buy it! Those someones dwell here at *Bazaar* and work long hours to make sure that you stay informed on fashion culture.

This column is designed to give those of you who are interested in fashion careers an inside look at the realities behind the Fendi furs and Chloe bags. Fashion is a billion dollar industry and growing, but in terms of relations with people, one will find that the industry is quite small.

My interview with Ursula Damani is an inside scoop into her daily life and the world's first fashion magazine. I begin by asking her questions on her day-to-day activities, likes and dislikes, and a short scoop into the busiest and most exciting time of the fashion magazine industry, *New York Fashion Week*.

Ursula Damani
Education: B.A Political Science & International Relations, University of California, San Diego
Previous Job: International Relations and Business Development, Washington, D.C.
Travels: Moved to Paris at 19 and worked as an Au Pair and taught English
Fun Facts: Went to fashion shows, movie premiers, and product launch parties while in Paris. Grandmother was a California print and runway model.
Future Career Goal: Venture into Fashion PR and Branding and hopefully move back to her native San Francisco to start a fashion consulting firm.



HTTP://WWW.HEARST.COM/

Published in 1867, Harper's Bazaar remains today the quintessential style resource for the well-dressed woman and the well-dressed mind.

Chizea: Why did you choose *Harper's Bazaar*?
Damani: *Bazaar* is the oldest continually published magazine in the world. It has been on the forefront of fashion since its first issue in 1867 and has introduced and published the works of some of the greatest artists of its time and continues to do so. Also, Glenda Bailey is an incredible mentor.

Chizea: How long have you been at *Bazaar*?
Damani: Two and half years.

Chizea: What does your job as Executive Editorial Assistant entail?
Damani: I think it would be easier to ask what I do not do. I co-ordinate Ms. Bailey's day-to-day needs, both personal and professional. I organize her schedule and projects in addition to functioning as a liaison by facilitating communications between her, the magazine staff and contributors. In a day, I could be doing anything from co-coordinating Glenda's wardrobe, speaking to a designer, setting up her appointments with industry executives, coming up and locating a very special gift for a celebrity friend and/or tracking down a pair of shoes that she may have eyed on one of her many trips. Truly none of my days are the same.

Chizea: Do you get to go on shoots, fashion shows, and events?
Damani: Actually, I do not get to go on shoots, but I do have the opportunity to meet the celebrities if they come into the office before a shoot. I do go to some fashion shows and events that do not conflict with my schedule.

Chizea: Do you travel at all, domestic and foreign?
Damani: No, I do not, but when Mrs. Bailey does travel she is on the phone with us so much it is like we are with her wherever she is. Her time away is very valuable for the office as it gives us a chance to take care of things that get put aside during the course of a "normal" day.

Chizea: What do you love most about your job?
Damani: I love the fact that I get to work with the international community on a daily basis and that I function as PR for Mrs. Bailey. However, what I love the most is when we are working on the *Bazaar* cover and Glenda asks for and actually listens to my input.

Chizea: What is your favorite issue of *Bazaar*?
Damani: I love the 140th Anniversary issue **with Jennifer Aniston** on the cover because it gave the reader the whole story of the magazine (November, 2007, p. 108). *Bazaar* has time and time again set the tone for popular culture as evident in its many features over the years. *Bazaar* was also the first magazine to publish many artists like **Salvador Dali**, photographers like **Man Ray** and **Richard Avedon** and designers

PHOTO COURTESY NONYELUM CHIZEA '08

like **Yves St. Laurent**. *Bazaar* definitely presented the works of these individual artists to the world. I also liked in the issue that various designers created their own interpretations of the *Bazaar* cover we later auctioned these covers off at our 140th Anniversary Bash where **Stevie Wonder** performed and the monies raised were donated to his favorite charity.

Chizea: Well, Fashion Week is here and it began with New York. What does that actually entail?
Damani: Well, New York, while it is very important, is only a quarter of Bazaar's Fashion show calendar. We have to cover and review shows in London, Milan, and Paris truly it is not a fashion week, but rather a fashion month. The Fall 2008 shows start only a week after Couture Season so we have to digest those shows and follow up on Glenda's meeting while she was in Paris in order to prepare for the New York Shows.

Chizea: It definitely gets crazy during that time?
Damani: (laughs) It's madness, but it is always exciting to see the new collections. After New York, it is the same drill for the other cities. We have to digest those shows and prepare for the Milan and Paris collections. We call every September and February "frock frenzy!"...honestly, were are in a fashion frenzy from the day after Labor Day when the New York Spring collection debuts until the last Fall look walks down the Paris runway in March. Things cool down again until the July Couture shows. All of this happens while trying to produce a magazine each month!

Chizea: Sounds like a ball!
Damani: Indeed it is.

Chizea: Two years ago, *The Devil Wears Prada (Fox 2000)* was released. Can you put some truths to the movie in relation to the true nature of the fashion industry in terms of the fashion closet, beauty closet, friendships and falling in love with sexy editors?
Damani: Sure! Oh wow, let's see. The film definitely glamorized all those things. The fashion closet is NOT for personal uses of the staff (although we dream that it is). Each fashion house creates one or a very limited amount of samples that needs to be shared by the many magazines of the world. For example, say you see a dress in *Bazaar* one month, and the same dress in another magazine the next month, it is really the same dress. As soon as we are done photographing pieces we have to send it on its way. We have a Fashion Closet Manager (Courtney Kryston) whose responsibility it is to make sure that the clothes do not detour into our personal wardrobes, but are returned in a timely manner to the fashion houses and PR Firms. There is, on occasion and with permission, the opportunity to borrow pieces for events.

Chizea: The parties and running around town?
Damani: Oh, I do not go to all of the glamorous parties as I am too busy working. However, the higher up you are in the maga-

PHOTO COURTESY NONYELUM CHIZEA '08

zine, the more parties you get invited to. This is a good and bad thing as one does not want to have a semblance of a life outside of work...there really are way too many events to make it to. The best thing is that I do not have to run all over the city for things. I have fabulous interns for that, thank goodness!

Chizea: Office romances?
Damani: There is no time for that (laughs)...plus more often than not, the male species in this industry tend to prefer their own kind.

Chizea: In the film, we watched as Andy (**Ann Hathaway**) had to try to balance her friendships and personal life with work. Is there that similarity in working at *Bazaar*?
Damani: In regards to my position, the film is dead on. I would say that maintaining personal relationships is the greatest challenge of my job. This job puts the saying, "it gives you a chance to learn who your true friends are" to the test. Luckily, I have an incredible and adorable French husband who is just as busy as I am and supports me and my professional goals. There are, however, times when hours can strain even the greatest relationship.

Chizea: On a lighter note, working within the fashion industry has its perks!
Damani: (smiles) Exactly! You get to meet so many creative and wonderful people. No day is ever the same and it is absolutely invigorating. The last two years have been a challenge, but absolutely incredible. I know that later in life I will look back and say "wow".

Chizea: Thank you so much for interviewing with me!
Damani: You are welcome! It's been a pleasure! Thank you.

Hamilton Student Participates in Iowa Caucus

by Eloise Walter '11
Features Contributor

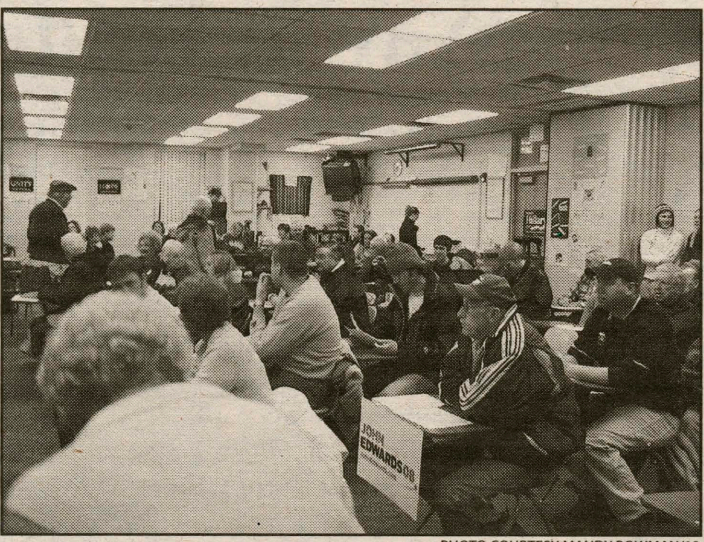


PHOTO COURTESY MANDY BOWMAN '10

Iowa voters convince others to support their candidate.

Mandy Bowman '10, Hamilton's only Iowan, participated in the Iowa Caucuses on January 3. Traditionally, Iowa is the first state to elect delegates for the county conventions; although New Hampshire hosts the first primary, Iowa hosts the first caucus and sets the precedent for the primaries. Bowman feels her vote counts more in the caucuses than in the nationals because of Iowa's strong influence. "As much as people put Iowa down, Iowans really know their politics and care a lot about who represents them. Iowa leads the way."

Before participating in the Iowa Caucus, Bowman met various candidates campaigning through Iowa; Bowman and her grandfather, a state senator of Iowa, even had the opportunity to meet and discuss policies with Hillary Clinton.

After forming opinions of each candidate, Bowman says she feels very lucky. "It was a great experience because most people in other states don't get to see and listen to the candidates live." After that experience, Bowman was voted secretary of her precinct during the Iowa Caucuses.

As precinct secretary, Bowman was in charge of registering voters and making sure all numbers were official and correct; during the caucus, Bowman personally registered 25 new democrats. Once the caucus began, participants rushed into preference groups according to their candidate of choice; each candidate's preference group had to have at least 15 percent of the precinct's population in order to receive a delegate. Bowman stood alone in her support for Richardson, while her friends chose between Byden and Edwards. After participants grouped themselves, each group had half an hour to convince as many voters as possible to reconsider their affiliation. Finally, Bowman was persuaded to support Clinton; Obama, Edwards and Clinton each received two delegates from Bowman's precinct.

The experience was very exciting as Bowman found herself surrounded by a crowd of voters all trying to change her perspective while passionately arguing over politics. When asked if she was pressured into supporting Hilary, Bowman says, "It's hard [to make a decision] when it's your neighbors who you know so well and they're all arguing over which candidate is better." Bowman's friends and family were split between candidates, adding further pressure to her decision.

Pressure is one reason why the democratic caucus is often considered an unfair voting process. Because all votes are public, pressure plays a crucial part in everyone's decision. However, Bowman remarks, "If you really care about politics you're going to make up your mind anyway. It doesn't matter what other people are saying."

Because of the overwhelming atmosphere of intense debate, caucuses are an exciting way to get involved in politics. Bowman agrees that if all political processes mimicked the Caucuses, more citizens would choose to vote.

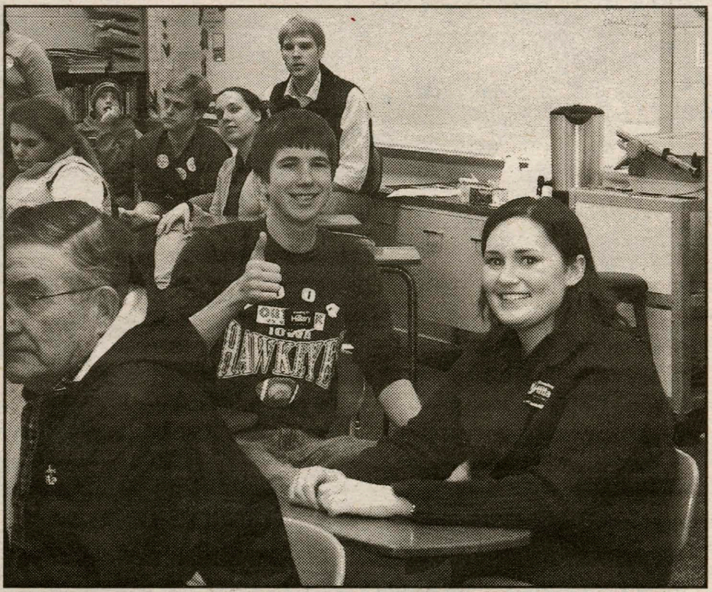


PHOTO COURTESY MANDY BOWMAN '10

Mandy Bowman '10 voting at the Iowa caucus.

Lotions & Potions: The Naked Truth

by Elizabeth Kosar '10
Beauty Columnist

Naked, nude, nekkid (predominantly used in the South), birthday suit, au naturel. Call it what you will. There are definitely times when clothes just aren't appealing. It might be an occasion like Valentine's Day or green socks day or you might be going streaking, you may just enjoy being naked. Whatever the reasons, there are some things a person can do to look better, smell better, and just be better naked.

Dr. Bronner's Lavender Liquid Soap- Mix a little bit of sugar with about a teaspoon of this stuff for an awesome exfoliant. Exfoliating makes your skin soft and boosts circulation for a little glow.

WWW.AMAZON.COM

Burt's Bees Lip Balm with Pomegranate- I love Burt's Bees, especially their lip balm with pomegranate oil. Pomegranates are filled with antioxidants, and they're a pretty color.

WWW.DRUGSTORE.COM

Hamadi Shea Hair Mask-

HTTP://WWW.MAKEUP.COM

It would be really hot to be naked and smooth and then there was this giant tumbleweed on your head, right? WRONG! Hair gets uber-dry in the winter, and this hair mask nourishes it back to normal. Also, it smells like a cookie.

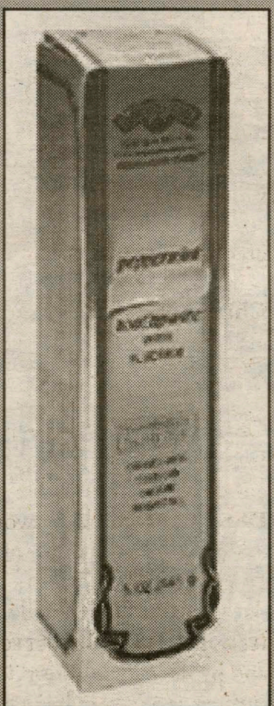
Armani Sensi Perfume- Smells absolutely incredible. It's warm and ideal for evening.

HTTP://WWW.PERFUMAVIETNAM.COM/

This stuff is ridiculously expensive, but you can get sample bottles off of Amazon.com for about $15. I've had the same bottle for 2 years, and it isn't even half gone because you only need three drops per use.

Nature's Gate Peppermint Whitening Toothpaste- If you're naked with someone else, or you just like having good oral hygiene, I highly recommend this toothpaste. It's not too strong-tasting, but it cleans really well.

One more word on being naked - shut the blinds.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Write for Features!

Are you literate?

Have you ever read a newspaper?

Are you bored?

Need a little extra on your resume?

Want to impress that boy/girl?

Interested in writing about exciting new topics?

Do you have a unique idea for an article that just doesn't fit in any other section of the Spectator?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, you could be a Features writer. Contact rmintzer or dsadove for details.

Swaptree.com: A New Way to Trade Media

by Jenna Fain '08
Featyres Columnist

So my MMMBop CD has been gathering dust for, well, quite a while. But because Hanson hasn't been in circulation in my car lately doesn't mean that there isn't a teenybopper in North Dakota who is pining for it. Lucky for me, for us, there is Swaptree.com.

Swaptree.com is the media world's latest obsession *du jour*. It is an online database that allows people to trade all types of media: books, DVDs, video games, CDs, and even textbooks. Impressed yet? The process is comparable to Netflix, but without any fees to join. It's FREE! The site profits from advertisers. Got you now. You enter the title of what you have and what you want and voila: the site uses an algorithmic method to match you to another user with a list that is parallel to your needs.

The brainchild of Greg Boesel, Swaptree was born in 2004 when Boesel finished The Da Vinci Code in a whirlwind. The fees for putting items on EBay frustrated him. Who really wants to waste the time, effort, and costs of putting a media item on EBay? Ideally, Boesel simply wanted a medium through which he could find someone who wanted to read the bestseller and exchange it in return for something he was dying to read. He decided to explore the possibility of a barter website. The technology world responded: the company has received over $1 million from private investors.

Swaptree even provides users with a printable label to send packages. You can bypass the whole trip to the post office and weighing the item ordeal, and simply drop it in the slot in the mail center. I'm not the only one with the site bookmarked; the *New York Times*, CNN, and the *Boston Globe* are just a few of the venerable critics that have raved about its simplicity and innovation. HEAG members will quickly become addicted to Swaptree because its environmentally responsible purpose and process encourage recycling, which is vital to combat the imposing consequences of global warming. The concept is so simple, yet brilliantly executed with its mathematical matching system. Swaptree is thriving and expanding. Once users tap into its resources, they will never look back.

swaptree

SWAPTREE.COM

Life is calling. How far will you go?

Peace Corps will be on campus Tuesday, February 12, 2008. Come learn more and meet a recruiter and former volunteer.

Peace Corps Information Session
Tuesday, February 12
The Hub (in Campus Center)
6pm - 7pm

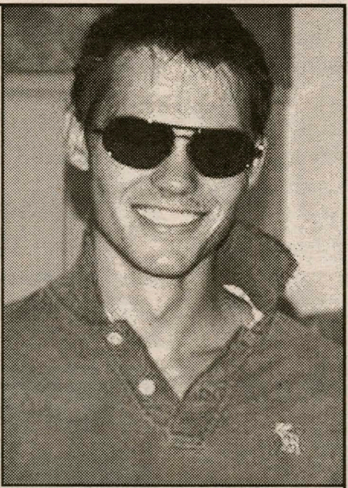
Peace Corps volunteers work in 74 countries. To date, 206 Hamilton graduates have served in the Peace Corps.

PEACE CORPS

Seniors Apply Now!
The application process takes 8-12 months to complete.
www.peacecorps.gov

Bachelor & Bachelorette of the Week

Eric Petschek '08



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ERIC PETSCHEK '08

Age: 21
Eye Color: Brown
Height: 6'0"
Sign: Pisces
Hometown: Fort Collins, CO
Major: Hispanic Studies
On Campus Activities: Rainbow Alliance, Cross-Country Ski team
Interested In: Men
What You Are Looking For Now: Pretty much anything, but dating.

Ideal Date:
On Campus: Hanging out with a group of friends and having a good time before going to Minor Field to stargaze
Off Campus: A nice dinner and then seeing a show.

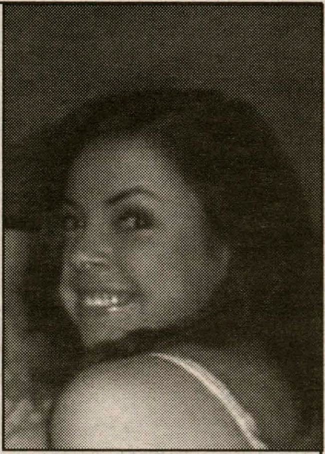
Turn Ons: Sense of humor, wittiness and intelligence, nice eyes, humility.
Turn Offs: Arrogance, Ego-centrism, Possessiveness
Dating Deal Makers: Gives impression of sincerity and frankness while remaining humble. Shows trust and generosity.
Dating Deal Breakers: Being immature. Baulking at the bill when dining out. Not tipping well. Being rude or ill-mannered in general.

Favorites
Place On Campus: Opus
Exercise At The Gym: Spinning class with Meg!
Gift to give: Something meaningful and personal so it differs on a case-by-case basis.
Gift to get: I would love some new CDs right now…
Song: "Mother" by Pink Floyd
Book: *A Boy's Own Story*
Movie: Star Wars: Return of the Jedi
"Guilty Pleasure" Song: I guess people try to make me feel guilty about l loving techno as much as I do, so any amazing techno song, like Starkillers' "Discoteka."
"Guilty Pleasure" Movie: My Neighbor Totoro
Celeb Crush: Michael Cera
Breakfast: Raisin brioche French toast!
Sitcom: Seinfeld
Quote: "Is life not a hundred times too short for us to stifle ourselves?"
- Friedrich Nietzsche

If I were an animal I would be: Cat because they are sociable but independent, playful but reserved.
If I could go anywhere in the world I would go to: The South of France because I've never been and have wanted to go for a while now.
If I were a character from English lit, I would be: …some character with epicurean aspirations that was internally conflicted by the righteousness of his pursuits/whether they were noble. I'm sure I've read the book before, I just don't know which it is.
The best pick-up line I have used: "If you were a pirate, would you wear your parrot on this should or the other one?"

If I were out with a date and were charged by a bear I would:
A) Throw my date in front of the bear and run
B) Expose my breast to the bear and scream "Take me instead!"
C) Team up and try to fight the bear
D) Other: Run away, hopefully on the back of my Pheidippid_s-like date

Elizabeth Kosar '10



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ELIZABETH KOSAR '10

Age: 20
Eye Color: Hazel
Height: 5'11"
Sign: Scorpio
Hometown: Colorado Springs, CO
Major: Classics
On Campus Activities: Tour Guide, Columnist, adventurer
Interested In: Men
What You Are Looking For Now: Friendship

Ideal Date:
On Campus: Diner, Pauly Shore movie, Footsie
Off Campus: Breakfast at Tiffany's, Dancin' in the moonlight

Turn Ons: Goods Hands, Funny, knows who John Denver is, a tractor
Turn Offs: Breasts, mouth-breathing, pretentiousness, jewelry
Dating Deal Makers: Chivalry, letting me eat some of your food
Dating Deal Breakers: Being rude, hooking up with someone else while we're on the date, yodeling

Favorites
Place On Campus: Dunham
Exercise At The Gym: Pshh
Gift to give: Food
Gift to get: Food
Song: "When the Stars Go Blue" by Taylor Swift
Book: *To Kill A Mockingbird*
Movie: When Harry Met Sally
"Guilty Pleasure" Song: Stop by the Spice Girls
"Guilty Pleasure" Movie: She's the Man
Celeb Crush: George Clooney
Breakfast: Omelet, bacon, toast, coffee, juice, with a side of buckwheat chocolate-chip pancakes
Sitcom: The Office
Quote: "I do what I want."

If I were an animal I would be: Dog-probably one of those little ones that runs around until you spray it with water.
If I could go anywhere in the world I would go to: Scotland because I would like to see the Loch Ness Monster. Also Gerard Butler and James McAvoy.
If I were a character from English lit, I would be: Eloise, because I am perpetually six.
The best pick-up line I have used: Yeah, I'm not cool enough for pick-up lines. Mostly I stand awkwardly in corners and eat stuff.
The best pick-up line that has worked on me: "The smoothie's on me."
The worst pick-up line that I have ever heard: "Hola pretty lady, would you like to see my chimichanga?"

If I were out with a date and were charged by a bear I would:
A) Throw my date in front of the bear and run
B) Expose my breast to the bear and scream "Take me instead!"
C) Team up and try to fight the bear
D) Other: I'd take down the bar with my superior cage fighting skills that I learned from watching the O.C.

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Compiled by Erin Hoener, Managing Editor

Cloverfield Sets January Box Office Records

by Jacob Murray '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

On July 18 2007, thousands of people flocked to theaters to enjoy Michael Bay's "Transformers." What they did not expect was an eerie preview for a movie directed by J.J. Abrams, showing partygoers in Manhattan witnessing what seems to be an earthquake. After the characters flood to the roof to get a bird's eye glimpse of the city, a mushroom cloud explosion in the distance erupts, sending the head of the Statue of Liberty rolling down the streets of New York City. Then the preview stops, showing the numbers "1-18-08." Over the past six months leading up to the unveiling of the movie "Cloverfield," millions of bloggers and Abrams fans have speculated what exactly caused the explosion in the trailer, as well as what the movie was about. Luckily, January 18 did eventually pass by, shedding light on what precisely the movie is about.

For those of you who have not yet seen Cloverfield, you are missing out on perhaps one of the best monster movies in the past few years. However, if you are sensitive to shaky camera angles and constant movement, this is not a movie for you. The story revolves around five main characters, one of which is leaving for Japan the next morning. A surprise goodbye party is thrown in his honor on the night of the catastrophe. After a supernatural blast of noise shakes the building, the friends investigate the source of the eruption. From this point on, chaos is unleashed on the city as an extremely large monster begins terrorizing the citizens of New York.

Although the "monster movie" genre has been all but worn out over the past few years, the producers of "Cloverfield" took a much different approach to filming their movie. Like the "Blair Witch Project," released in 1999, "Cloverfield" is shot solely from one of the characters holding a camcorder, giving the movie a realistic touch. Because of this shooting style, the movie focuses more on the characters attempting to survive a disaster, rather than the disaster itself. The viewers are able to get a sense of what role each character plays in the movie and how the devastation of losing everything they own affects them individually.

"Cloverfield" crushes the box office.
WWW.POSTERGEEK.COM

That being said, you are still able to see the monster from a plethora of different camera angles throughout the 85-minute thriller, wreaking havoc upon everything that comes in its path. One of the greatest scenes of the movie occurs when the main characters enter an electronics store to view the multiple television stations that are covering the disaster. The friends stare in awe as a helicopter shines a light on where the head of the Statue of Liberty used to be. The monster is then shown assaulting a nearby building, as little chunks of "debris" fall from the skin of the beast. Unfortunately, these lumps of "debris" turn out to be miniature versions of the monster itself, creating an even more frightening predicament for the once partygoers.

Overall, the movie is well done and expertly filmed, despite its very small budget. There are a few plot errors near the end regarding the camera itself, and how it is supposed to survive through being smashed by falling rocks and even a helicopter crash. Another issue was its very short runtime of just under an hour and a half. In the 21st century we have become accustomed to watching movies that run well over two and a half hours. Although most of these movies seem overdone and too long, when "Cloverfield" ends viewers feel like they could have enjoyed at least another thirty minutes of destruction and turmoil. Lastly, many viewers complained that the shooting style left them with severe headaches and nausea. Some audience members even went as far as requesting for their money back for the movie. Although this is an exaggeration, the movie leaves your head spinning.

Despite the short runtime, however, the movie was well received by the public, with a 76 percent on www.rottentomatoes.com and a "B" on Yahoo! Movies. "Cloverfield" was able to grab the number one spot in the box office for the week of January 18, acquiring over forty-one million dollars on opening weekend. Overall, the movie has grossed over eighty-one million dollars, although it cost only twenty million to create. In addition, "Cloverfield" set two major records in its opening weekend, according to Entertainment Weekly. Firstly, the movie grossed more money than any other movie over MLK weekend. Even more amazing was that it passed the 1997 Star Wars re-release for the biggest January debut ever. Director Matt Reeves was so pleased with the outcome of the movie that he has alluded to a possible sequel. So what's not to love about this movie? For anyone who loves action thrillers and amazing CGI, "Cloverfield" provides ample entertainment that will give you a newfound hope and trust in a dying era of monster movies.

The Real Rave Playlist... for Your Personal Dance Party

by Lauren Moon '09
and Melissa Balding '09
Arts & Entertainment Writers

We all know that everyone could use a couple more tunes to add to their dance-tastic playlist. Because let's face it, Soulja Boy is really getting old and the Spice Girls were never okay. Everything here is modern, unpolished, wacky, but surprisingly catchy. A lot like you dancing in the ELS basement. Unlike the aforementioned, none of these songs have preconceived dance steps, but feel free to create your own.

M.I.A. – Paper Planes

Rolling Stone gave this Sri Lankan female grime rapper album of the year for Kala, which features Paper Planes. This song has witty lyrics ("I've got more records than the KGB"), and clever sound effects (cash registers and gun shots, lots of gunshots). Her name stands for "Missing in America," because of her issues acquiring a Visa for the US. Immigration snafus aside, M.I.A. is up and coming stateside and is featured on season four of *Entourage*.

Peter, Bjorn and John – Amsterdam

Peter, Bjorn and John are the catchiest Swedish indie rock artists your ears will ever take in. Featured on several soundtracks, these guys are blowing up. We know you know their single "Young Folks" (with the whistling?) but this song also deserves to be remixed by Kanye. Seriously, they're best thing to come out of Scandinavia since the ABBA teens.

Various album covers in the Real Rave Playlist
WWW.WIKIPEDIA.ORG

Hilltop Hoods – Clown Prince

Everyone's favorite Australian rap group drops the catchiest lyrically savvy music you've never heard. They're big down "undah" and rapidly rising elsewhere. "Clown Prince" is a hilarious commentary on drinking rounds, Marlon Brando, oh, and banging in the back of the car. Their style is akin to The Streets, except with an Australian accent.

Lily Allen – Alfie

Grammy nominated for "Best Alternative Album" and "Best New Artist" at the MTV Video Music Awards, this London native is clearly all over the place. Alfie is an amusing song about her little brother wasting his life away smoking weed. Her voice is light and bright with a noticeable British accent, but her lyrics are edgy and dripping with sarcasm.

Jamie Lidell – When I Come Back Around

Not only is he a previous Hamilton performer, Jamie Lidell is featured on multiple soundtracks and commercials nationwide. "When I Come Back Around" has a beat born of the space age and eighties. Coupled with his soulful voice, this song is modern and very conducive to dancing. Get boogey-ing.

RJD2 – The Horror

RJD2 is a group of incredibly dynamic remix artists that transcend techno, new rock, and occasionally utilize rap cameos against hard beats. In "The Horror" they mix beats that rock your head with siren sound effects on top of voice samples that are reminiscent of Frankenstein. Ya dig?

Architecture In Helsinki – Heart It Races

Architecture In Helsinki is a group of extremely talented musicians who's music often blurs the line between brilliance and insanity. Classified as "avant garde indie pop" Heart It Races layers cryptic lyrics on top of wacky beats. Plus in the music video they play with neon glow in the dark tribal skeletons, so who wouldn't like them?

Battles – Atlas

OK. Take your favorite techno song, your favorite childhood cartoon, and your favorite hallucinogen. Now mix them all up and serve it to yourself super fresh with a side of bass. That's what Atlas is, over seven minutes of this outlandish and curiously catchy bliss. Enjoy!

Devil Makes Three – Old Number Seven

This song is the anthem for Jack Daniels. Need I say more?

Big props to Melissa Balding and Chris Rand for introducing me to grime music.

If you're not picking up what I'm throwing down, write your own! E-mail lmoon or jdmurray with your playlists!

The IMF Releases The Top 20 Albums of 2007

Compiled by Winston Cook-Wilson '09, Tom James '11, Tom Lewek '09, Travis Mockler '11, Rory Pavach '10, Chris Rand '09 and Brendan Welsh '10

The Independent Music Fund recently released their top 20 albums of 2007. For the next two weeks, *The Spectator* will be counting down to their number one album, starting with numbers 14-20.

14. Of Montreal- *Hissing Fauna, Are You the Real Destroyer?*

On 2007's best-selling *Hissing Fauna,* Kevin Barnes and his crew of psych-pop guerillas fully embrace the electro-funk tendencies betrayed by their previous two albums. The decadence of their disco-infused sound was mirrored by an increasingly involved stage show (as seen at Hamilton during the last spring semester) featuring towering three-headed puppets, dominatrix gear and sexual pantomimes involving bananas and aliens. But the virtuosity of Barnes' songwriting has only been enhanced by the band's new aesthetic, and sultry shuffles like "Gronlandic Edit" is among the best music the band has created in their long career.

15. Beirut- *The Flying Cup Club*

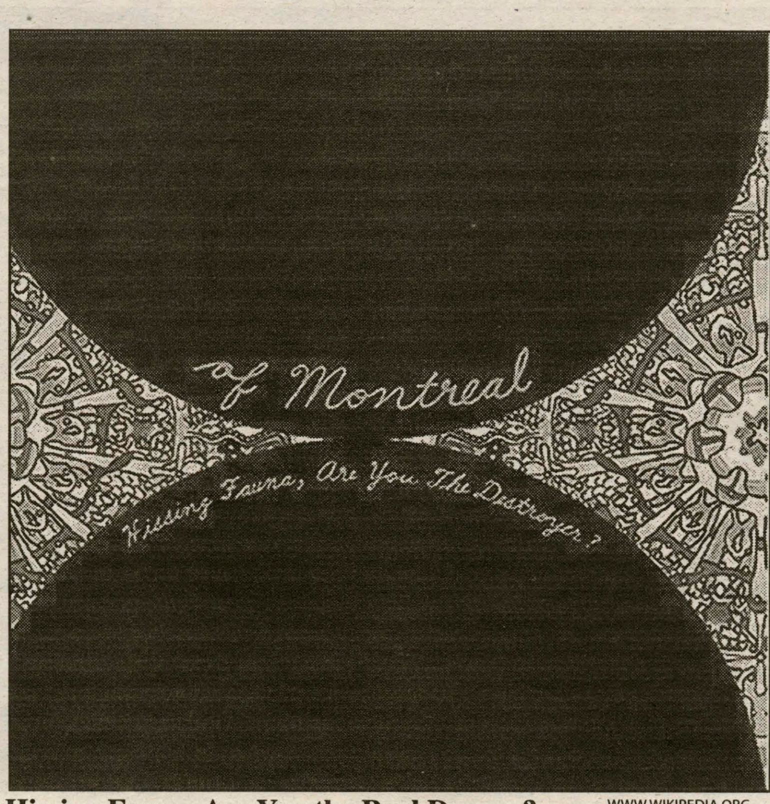
On his newest full-length album (following the tour-de-force *Lon Gisland* EP), Zach Condon infuses his colorfully orchestrated, Balkan-sounding pop songs (his posh warble recalling Andrew Bird and Patrick Wolf) with the aesthetic of French chanson. There is more pump organ than ever before, more stompy waltz time, and more chord changes that remind one of the disaffected musichall harmonies of French songsmiths both new and old: Yann Tiersen as well as Jacques Brel and Gerard Depardieu. As always, the record astonishes with its multilayered militaristic percussion and lush vocal counterpoint.

16. Jens Lekman- *Night Falls Over Kortedala*

Morrisey-esque deadpan humor and melancholic self-parody has always characterized the lyrics of Swedish export Jens Lekman's compositions. For instance, check out this quote from the IMF's favorite Jens tune, "A Postcard to Nina," about going to a lesbian's house for dinner to pretend to be her boyfriend: "Nina I can be your boyfriend/ So you can stay with your girlfriend/ Your father is a sweet old man/ But it is hard for him to understand/ That you want to love a woman." While Jens has always been clever lyrically, his melodies on *Night Falls Over Kortedala* are seriously brilliant pop constructions that transcend the musicality of his previous work. Increasingly involved orchestral and horn arrangements recall everything from classic Motown, the '60s crooner anthems of Scott Walker and the most recent work of Belle and Sebastian. Soul and disco backbeats, both real and sampled, also add to the universal appeal of the record by making it danceable.

17. !!! - *Myth Takes*

On their latest release, !!! puts together a chaotically dance-oriented collection of tunes to follow up on the success of the politically pointed *Louden Up Now*. After knocking your socks off with rockabilly guitar riffs and Nic Offer's chanting vocals, they begin to experiment - Offer raps, songs move roughly between large amounts of guitar, keys, and even some dub beats. But, through their constantly evolving dance-punk based sound !!! achieves their ultimate goal: we cannot stop dancing.



Hissing Fauna, Are You the Real Danger?

WWW.WIKIPEDIA.ORG

18. A Place To Bury Strangers – *(Self Titled)*

Clearly big, loud guitar will never go out of style. A Place To Bury Strangers took a shoegaze wall of sound and tore it down, then used the bricks to make a disgusting yet beautiful sculpture of distortion, lingering vocals and dark poetry.

19. Feist- *The Reminder*

The Reminder showcases Leslie Feist's profound understanding of the craft of writing pop music. From the dance-bluesy "Sea Lion Woman" to the sultry "My Moon My Man"to the mesmerizing "The Water", every track is seamless, every melody is haunting. And even if every track were not as perfectly executed as they are, this album would deserve accolades simply for "1 2 3 4," which is (in this humble reviewer's opinion) the most perfect pop song that has been produced in decades. *The Reminder* is a rare classic in a time full of overly-conceptualized, transient indie music.

20. Band of Horses – *Cease to Begin*

A long time ago, in the autumn of 2006, Band of Horses performed to an anticipatory crowd in the Annex. Although the Annex has since morphed into the Tolles Pavilion, Band of Horses has preserved its majestic and sprawling sound that so entertained their Hamilton fans in '06. On *Cease to Begin*, Ben Bridwell and company solidify their beautiful version of nostalgia-driven indie rock that appeared on the band's debut *Everything All the Time*. Through a mixture of Southern twang and Northwest sub-pop sensibilities, Band of Horses creates an earnest and melodic sound easily accessible to listeners.

Very Honorable Mention

Wu-Tang Clan – *8 Diagrams*

Disputed both internally and around the music world upon its release, the fifth Clan record represents an enormous shift after their 6-year hiatus. One thing is for certain: this is, more than any other work by the Clan, RZA's album. His production moves away from the subtle, low and nightmarish strings and piano of late 90's releases and into more melody and guitar (See John Frusciante) based beats. While Ghostface, Raekwon and GZA have their usual highlights, Method Man (appearing on the majority of the album's tracks) continues to be the lyrical centerpiece of the Clan's formula. Despite creative differences after the release, the group came together thematically for the creation: the first half of the record lets us know the Clan in back in full force, while the second half confronts the collective emotions surrounding the death of Russell Jones (The Ol' Dirty Bastard, Dirt McGirt at the time of his death).

A&E brings you Deathcage!

by Kevin O'Connor '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Have you ever thought, I wonder "who would win in a fight: Kevin from "Home Alone" or Elián Gonzalez? Could the Arbiter from Halo beat fashion magnate Mugatu? At the Spectator, we spend a great deal of time thinking about these things (can you say that Yale Daily News? I didn't think so). But despite what has probably amounted to years of contemplation and discourse, we have not yet reached firm conclusions on these matters.

Hence, the Mega-Mega Super Deathcage Battle Royale. Conceived in the wee hours of the morning (not unlike the three children in Utica I have to write a check for every month), this is a bracketed tournament in which you, the readers, vote online to determine which combatant is most worthy of the "Spectator MMSDBR Cup." Every week we'll provide you with results and highlights from the week's best match-ups.

For the first week, we will be running the "Chuck Norris Bracket," where the number 1 seed, Moses, will take on last seed, Mike Tyson. Fifteen other battles will then ensue, leaving the best man, animal, or cartoon standing. Next week will feature the "Peyton Manning" bracket, with sixteen brand new fighters. We will give blow by blow descriptions of the best matchups, as well as the biggest upset of the week.

128 Fighters, One Cup... Let the games begin. Voting starts Friday at https://my.hamilton.edu/college/its/survey. An e-mail will be sent out to remind you to cast your votes!

Here is a list of some of the best matchups we will be featuring this week in the Spectator:

-Moses vs. Mike Tyson
-Gary Busey vs. Al Ham Pig
-Sean Connery vs. Paula Abdul
-Aragorn vs. Martha Stewart
-Reptar vs. Free Willy
-Eli Manning vs. Hamburglar
-Genghis Khan vs. Barack Obama
-Scrooge McDuck vs. Cruella DeVil
-Johnny McEnroe vs. Atticus Finch
-Tanya Harding vs. The Janitor from Scrubs
-Captain Hook vs. Olmec
-ManBearPig vs. Mr. Clean
-Bill Clinton vs. Star Jones Reynolds
Plus more!

Note: Combatants were selected by a panel including Kevin O'Connor, Jacob Murray, Marty Connor, and Melissa Balding.

Interested in writing music, novel, or movie reviews for Arts & Entertainment? We are currently looking for someone to write the weekly horoscopes column! Contact jdmurray@hamilton.edu if you're interested!

Dearestazazel: The Ultimate Form of Dance Metal

by Ashley Stagner '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

According to Peter Felix Armstrong, lead singer of Dearestazazel, the band follows a strict recipe. The ingredients include: one Masters Degree in Music, one Opera trained singer, one manslaughter acquittal for a drummer, and one music school trained guitar player. You begin with the operatic Armstrong, add in drummer Ricardo Melendez and guitarist Jesse Greene. Top this combination off with bassist Patrick McHutchinson IV. You then proceed to "work the mixture for two years of relentless national touring, kneed in many a night of sleeping in a van, bake in the Florida sun for three months, and follow up with a good night's freeze in Pennsylvania." The end result is a deliciously bitter and spicy band that is sure to captivate the taste buds of all listeners.

Armstrong and ex-bassist Chris Wall created the band in late 2005. Their first single, "Sex is a Sin," was recorded with Armstrong filling in the vacant keyboard and drum slots. Armstong says of the song, "it sounded just lovely, received a good many plays in the first day, and we started looking for the other members."

Greene moved from Florida to join the band and Melendez answered the ad for a drummer that the band placed in a newspaper. After he beat a man who attacked him with a knife outside of an Altanta-area bank, Melendez was indeed acquitted for charges of manslaughter.

In January 2006 Dearestazazel recorded three more songs to complete their demo. The band began touring in April, to which Armstrong admits, "we can't seem to get enough of the stage. The show eventually evolved into a melee of fog, bubbles, thrashing bodies, lights, and banging heads. So much fun."

The album cover for Dearestazazel, an up and coming band WWW.MYSPACE.COM

Dearestazazel recorded *Come Closer* in August 2006. Their newest EP, *Touch Me*, was the fulfillment of the sonic the band desired. The record was produced by Chris Unck and recorded in only a few days.

Currently, Dearestazazel has just signed with One Eleven Records, and is in the process of recording a full length CD entitled *Be Mine* to be released in April. Armstrong says of the new record, "this CD will be a better presentation of the band, in my opinion. I believe we've one-upped ourselves and that the new material is stronger than the old. It will be a more diverse record, but will still retain the essence of Dearestazazel. I've cried, banged my head, danced, and drank excessively to the demos... so I can only guess what the actual release will bring."

One of Dearestazazel's most stunning songs is "Lovely Lovely," from their 2007 EP *Touch Me*. The song is a perfect example of the band's electronic experimentation combined with vicious drum beats and amazing guitar shreds. Dearestazazel defines their music as "dance metal" of which this song is the epitome. The song is about cutting, and how it feels so good. The chorus observes, "Lovely Lovely Lovely little red lines / The pain is the drug and I do it all the time /It looks good / As good as deep as mine / When hearts make a war in the middle of the night." Armstrong's smooth powerful voice truly makes this song as he sings: "What makes the ache in you so strong that you can't resist? / I know / Attention and endorphins make a very pretty pair / And wounds make graves for secrets / But time will quell your restless heart / And teach brand new ways to abuse yourself."

Another equally stunning song is "Take Escape" from Dearestazazel's 2006 EP *Come Closer*. Although the song does not contain as much vocal range as "Lovely Lovely," Armstong's voice is still powerful and at times almost gravelly. The song is a whirlwind relying heavily on a synthesizer and keyboard, and it will keep you dancing and trying to sing along, even if you cannot understand what Armstrong is singing. The lyrics are admittedly depressing, but the music is so upbeat that the true meaning of the song is deceiving: "Shriek and a scream and I'm down on my knees / If I beg you please can I take you with me? / The blood in the veins doesn't move quite the same / If the song is the end then I cannot pretend that it's true / That it's real / All you wanted to feel."

Dearestazazel is a band that you are sure to hear more about in the near future, especially after their first album is released in April 2008.

Beer, Food, and Lingerie

by Alex Ossola '10
Arts & Entertainment Writer

This year's Super Bowl commercials were everything you could possibly want—beer, chips, soda, lingerie, and...giant carrier pigeons? Don't even lie, you only watch the game for the commercials. Below is a list of the top five ads of this year, according to USA Today's ratings list.

5) Bud Light—Fire Breather. Bud Light claims that their beer is so awesome, it will actually allow you to breathe fire, like the man at a romantic dinner with his gal. That's right, boys, all you have to do is breathe fire to get the ladies. Thank goodness a water-based alcoholic beverage now allows us to do that.

The Etrade baby didn't make the list. WWW.NFL.COM

4) Doritos—Giant Rat Attack. A personal favorite. Man sets mousetrap with super-cheesy Dorito outside mouse hole and patiently awaits the mouse with bag of Doritos in hand. Man in rat suit breaks through the wall, tackles man with bag, and promptly beats the crap out of him. Who doesn't enjoy the attacks of oversized rodents on unsuspecting snack-food consumers? Reminds me of Commons.

3) Bridgestone—Frogger-esque. Squirrels, owls, turtles, deer, and other woodland creatures scream wildly at the prospect of a car hitting them. At the last minute, however, the driver swerves out of the way, thanks to his spiffy Bridgestone tires. Man, if real woodland creatures screamed like that, I'd just keep driving right on through.

2) FedEx- Carrier Pigeons. A company that uses decked-out carrier pigeons as their mode of delivery wreaks havoc on an urban setting, as the pigeons used for "larger packages" drop things in the street, peck at trucks, molt enormous feathers, and toss cars through windows. Finally, the boss suggests that they switch to FedEx. Come on, everyone knows that fowl larger than your mode of transportation is only good for one thing: dinner.

1) Budweiser—Rocky Spoof. A Dalmatian trains the disappointed Clydesdale horse Hank to be fit enough to be on the "hits team" the next year. Aww, how endearing, animals working together towards a common goal. Maybe they can bond and get drunk together to celebrate.

There you have it: this year's big game, play-by-play in commercials. Tune in next year for more animals, alcoholic beverages and underdog victories!

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FOOL'S GOLD — MATTHEW MCCONAUGHEY, KATE HUDSON — STADIUM SEATING — ●12:00●2:15-4:35-7:00▲9:25 DTS PG-13
MARTIN LAWRENCE — STADIUM SEATING — Welcome Home ROSCOE JENKINS DTS — ●12:05●2:25-4:45-7:10▲9:35 PG-13
8 ACADEMY AWARD NOMS INCL. BEST PICTURE — There Will Be Blood — ●1:10-4:20-7:30 DANIEL DAY LEWIS R
MEET THE SPARTANS DTS — ●12:50●2:50-4:55-6:50▲8:50 PG-13
27 DRESSES — KATHERINE HEIGL — ●12:20●2:35-4:50-7:05▲9:20 PG-13
THE EYE ●12:30●2:45-5:05-7:20▲9:30 JESSICA ALBA DTS PG-13
BUCKET LIST ●2:20-6:40 PG-13
7 ACADEMY AWARD NOMS INCL. BEST PICTURE — ATONEMENT 4:00-6:30▲9:00 R
RAMBO ●2:40-7:15 R
8 ACADEMY AWARD NOMS INCL. BEST PICTURE & SUPPORTING ACTOR — NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN ●12:10-4:40▲9:15 R
UNTRACEABLE ●12:15-4:30▲8:45 R
ALVIN & THE CHIPMUNKS ●12:00●2:00 PG
●MATINEES FRI-SAT-SUN▲LATE SHOWS FRI-SAT-THU
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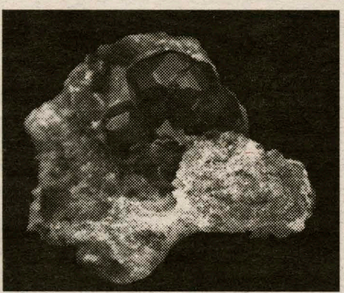
A Garnet Mine in the Adirondacks

by Elijah LaChance '10
Science & Technology Editor

Not three hours from Hamilton College, near Gore Mountain, is a small community called North River. Nearby is a dirt road with a wooden sign that says, "Garnet Mine Tours." This humble façade belies the magnitude and history of the Barton garnet mines, the oldest garnet mines in North America and still part of the largest garnet deposit in the world. Last summer, I took a weekend break from my summer of carbohydrate chemistry research to go camping with my family. My mother, my father, my two younger sisters, and I had no idea we were in for a first-hand look at the glories of geology.

Most people know little about garnet other than that it is the January birthstone. Garnet is actually a close relative to diamond; both are found in metamorphic rock, and if garnet crystals are kept under the right heat and pressure for about 10,000 more years, their chemical structure will eventually change to diamond. Other types of stone surround the garnet crystals, giving an overall pattern a patchwork feel with blacks, whites, and sparkles of red. Garnets can actually come in any color except blue and are found in Eastern Europe, Russia, and Asia. The most common type of garnet, the kind people think of when they hear "garnet" is the pyrope garnet, which is associated in folklore from Asia and the Southwest of the United States with fire, romance, safe travel, and the planet Mars.

My great-grandfather once managed a small garnet mine, so the sight of that battered-looking wooden sign grabbed our attention. We turned our van up the narrow dirt road and were met with a small but well-appointed visitor's center filled with products containing local garnets.



GEMANDMINERAL.COM

Pyrope garnets, like these, are the most common type.

There were rings and necklaces to be sure (my father bought a beautiful brooch for my mother at sufficient cost to get a rebuke for his trouble) but there were also coasters, (I bought a set) checkerboards, cutting boards, and informational texts on garnets. Toward the front were small bags of sand collected from the mines in the mountains above. We bought one, ran it under water from the pump outside, and were amazed to find dark red crystals peeping out at us from beneath the muck. As the water washed the sand away, scores of garnets were revealed.

We gladly paid $9.00 each for a tour of the mines. Once again, we piled into the van and were led by our tour guide (a very knowledgeable high school girl who was able to speak at length on any aspect of geology someone might want to quiz her on) up yet another narrow dirt road and found ourselves in what appeared to be a crater some two hundred feet deep and almost a mile across. A large pond covered portions of the crater where the miners had dug below the water table. Our tour guide explained that this mine pit was only one of several that had been used when the mine was operational. In fact, there is still an operating mine a few miles from the old original,

*see **Barton**, page 16*

A View On the Green Roundtable

by Kye Lippold '10
Science and Technology Writer

The Green Democracy Roundtable, hosted by the Hamilton Environmental Action Group and the Hamilton College chapter of Democracy Matters on January 31, brought together a distinguished panel of students, staff, alumni, and politicians to discuss potential solutions to the problems of climate change. The event, closing Hamilton's participation in the Focus the Nation global warming teach-in that took place at over one thousand schools on that same Thursday, was notable for the depth of the speakers' knowledge and for their universal commitment to address climate change.

The comments of New York Assemblyman David R. Townsend at the meeting were especially notable because, as a Republican member of the New York State government, he acknowledged that he sought to make New York "the cleanest state." Townsend repeatedly focused on tax credits that he had supported or authored to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including the Climate Change Solutions Act that provided rebates to purchasers of fuel-efficient vehicles while collecting a climate emissions surcharge on inefficient ones. He frequently looked at the issue of global warming from the supply side, pointing out that electric car manufacturers have so far been unable to create a car that runs more than forty miles after a four hour charge, and thus supported programs that included incentives for manufacturers to produce clean vehicles. He also focused on renewable fuels, lauding tax credits for these fuels as a source of home heating and a "big help to keep the farmers in business." Townsend also explained how citizens converting their cars to renewable fuels often find a shortage of stations at which to fill their greener tanks; to counter this, he proposed tax credits for filling stations to convert to renewable fuels that would eventually result in renewable fuel stations in all the travel plazas on the New York State Thruway. While he argued that environmental problems such as acid rain were forced upon New York by pollution from Midwest factories and that global warming, as a worldwide problem, may make it difficult to "protect everybody" for a reasonable price, he staked political ground on the issue by saying, "we do not have our head in the sand in Albany, no more than they do in Washington."

Visiting Assistant Professor of Government Peter F. Cannavò spoke on the political issues around climate change, arguing for serious action and to watch out for "feel-good" solutions. He underscored the threat of climate change as the "greatest challenge facing humanity over the coming century," and examined the irony of current high concerns about terrorism when a terrorist group could "only dream of" the destruction caused by global warming, which will "melt glaciers," "spread disease," and create 50 million environmental refugees. He attributed the lack of attention to global warming to the difficulty seeing "diffuse feedback from nature" as opposed to a visible terrorist threat. While Cannavò indicated concern about the moral issues of "distributive justice" within climate change solutions and the power of democracy to flourish under "pretty major" restrictions on consumption to prevent catastrophic global warming, he gave evidence for hope, in part because of recent movements by Republicans to adopt the climate change issue traditionally pushed by the Democratic party. He pointed out that with Senator John McCain, a Republican who was "a leader in the Senate" on global warming, as a frontrunner for the Republican presidential race in 2008, Americans are likely to elect a president who will address climate change rather than performing the "foot-dragging" that he sees in the President George W. Bush and presidential contender Governor Mitt Romney administrations: "once [the Bush administration] get[s] out of the way, I think there is going to be some action on this." While Cannavò cautioned that some proposed legislation (such as that supporting corn-based ethanol) actually worsens the problem of global warming, and the question remains whether these actions will be enough to halt the damage already done, he closed with "it's a scary time, but scary times usually bring out the best in people, don't they?"

Brian Hansen, Hamilton's Director of Environmental Protection, Safety and Sustainability, commented on the rapid rise of environmental studies programs; he was the first graduate of Clarkson University's environmental policy program, at that time housed in a log cabin, but has now seen that program today receive more focus than other disciplines at that school. He pointed out that while academic institutions like Hamilton "got in some ways a free pass from the formative years of environmental regulations" because industrial polluters were perceived as more likely to face regulations, citations against Hamilton's peer institutions in recent years forced universities to upgrade their environmental programs. After "hard work," Hamilton was able to pass its Environmental Protection Agency inspections in May 2005 without citations or fines. He pointed out that further progress at Hamilton is in some ways constrained by a culture in which "everything is decided by a committee," but encouraged Hamilton College students that "true power to make change lies in us all as individuals."

Two Hamilton alumni spoke passionately about their involvement in environmental work post-graduation. Alisha Fowler '06, who works in a "policy shop" of the National Wildlife Federation ("the largest member based conservation group in America"), praised the recent development of global warming into a more nonpartisan issue in light of reports such as a recent cost comparison showing global warming would lead to a five percent sacrifice in GDP if left unchecked but only a three percent sacrifice in GDP to prevent. She also complimented the "absolutely

*see **Roundtable**, page 16*

Focus On: Cancer Research Today, Part Two

by Nicholas Berry '09
Science and Technology Writer

According to the American Cancer Society, nearly 560,000 Americans died from cancer in 2007. In that same year, another 1.4 million people were diagnosed with cancer. The Cancer Research Institute projects that one out of every four Americans alive today will eventually die of cancer absent any major breakthroughs in the prevention and control of this disease. Faced with these staggering statistics, the U.S. government and other organizations have spent hundreds of millions of dollars on cancer research in the hopes of finding more effective ways to treat and prevent cancer. Last week, we focused on a discussion of cancer immunotherapy. This week, we will look at two other equally exciting and promising fields: targeted cancer therapy and gene therapy.

Targeted cancer therapy involves the use of drugs that block the growth and spread of cancer by interfering with the processes involved in normal cells becoming cancerous (carcinogenesis) and tumor growth. Specifically, many of these therapies work by blocking the biological signals that tell cancer cells to grow and divide uncontrollably. Since they focus on the molecular and cellular changes specific to cancer cells, it is hoped that targeted cancer therapies will be more effective and less harmful to normal cells than existing treatments.

One type of targeted cancer therapy involves signal-transduction inhibitors or "small-molecule" drugs that block specific enzymes and growth factor receptors involved in cancer cell growth. "Apoptosis-inducing" drugs are another type of targeted cancer therapy that causes cancer cells to undergo apoptosis (cell death). The advantage of these targeted cancer therapies is that they give doctors better ways to tailor cancer treatment to individual patients' unique cancer cells. They are also more selective, less harmful to normal cells, and have less adverse side effects than traditional treatments.

The gene therapy approach to cancer treatment revolves around scientists altering a person's genetic material by introducing new genetic material into his or her cells with the goal of making him or her more resistant to and better able to fight cancer. The new genetic material generally replaces missing or altered genes with healthy genes. Since missing or altered genes can cause cancer, substituting "working" copies of these genes may offer an effective treatment for this disease.

The new genetic material is delivered to a patient's cells via vectors. Viruses (specifically, retroviruses) that have been modified so that they can no longer cause disease and whose own genetic material has been replaced with the desired genetic material are the most common type of vector. The viruses are also altered so that they only target a specific type of cell (namely, the one to which the genetic material will be delivered). When the modified virus infects a patient's cells, it inserts the desired genes into them so that they can be incorporated into these cells' genetic material. In ex vivo infection, cells are removed from the patient, infected with the modified virus, grown in the lab, and returned to the patient. In in vivo infection, the virus is injected directly into the patient.

One type of gene therapy involves altering white blood cells so that they are able to recognize and attack cancer cells. Scientists remove a small sample of the patient's blood and transfer a gene causing cells to produce a protein called a T-cell receptor (TCR) into the patient's white blood cells. These altered white blood cells are then returned to the patient, where they produce the TCRs. These TCRs recognize the specific molecules found on cancer cells and cause the cancer cells to be attacked and destroyed by the white blood cells.

In another type of gene therapy, genes are inserted into cancer cells to make them more vulnerable to cancer treatments. Alternatively, the patient's blood cells can be made more resistant to the side effects of high doses of these treatments. Similarly, viral vectors can introduce "suicide genes" into cancer cells. When an inactive form of a toxin is injected into the patient and taken in by the cancer cells, these suicide genes active the toxin, killing the cancer cells. Furthermore, cancer cells can be modified so that they cannot develop new blood vessels to feed their growth.

As with cancer immunology, many targeted cancer therapy and gene therapy treatments are still highly experimental and are not currently certified for use in patients.

Some Thoughts on the Green Democracy Roundtable

*from **A View**, page 15*

ing" grassroots action at Focus the Nation, former Vice President Al Gore's environmental film "An Inconvenient Truth," and recent scientific reports creating a sense that "people stand at a tipping point" in dealing with global warming. She suggested that environmentally concerned citizens should focus on electing a green president in 2008, get involved in any elected president's first term (traditionally a productive political time) to push climate change action, and ensure a new international agreement to replace the Kyoto Protocol is established in coming years. She encouraged Hamilton students to "stay involved in political issues" throughout this tumultuous time.

Emily Gunther '06, who now works for Just Food, a New York City-based nonprofit, discussed how food and livestock use contributes to global warming through use of fossil fuels for transport and methane gas emissions. She invoked a statistic that the the livestock industry generates 18 percent of global warming pollution, a significant figure considering the little concern paid by many environmentalists to promoting vegetarian diets as a sustainable alternative. This comment led to some spirited audience questions, which weighed the value of sustainability versus Assemblyman Townsend's contention that to change diets would require "telling this whole culture they're going to have to change their way of living." Gunther also discussed Graduates for a Greener Hamilton, a recent alumni group that has attracted significant support in petitioning President Joane Hinde Stewart for greener Hamilton programs and encouraged students to apply for the organization's Green Initiatives Fund, which provides funding to students for "environmentally focused projects."

Chris Sullivan '09 talked about Hamilton's Community Garden, a one acre plot of land behind Ferguson where students have been working this last year to prepare a garden for use by classes, individual plots for gardeners, and a large community plot that will provide food for use by Bon Appetit. Through this initiative, Sullivan hopes students will become more aware of their consumption choices (including the environmental costs of using food trucked from thousands of miles away), see the benefits of a sustainable food system, and "form a tangible connection with the land and the landscape we are part of." Unlike many of the other proposals, Sullivan's message involved concrete change conducted locally at Hamilton, and he indicated that Bon Appetit and the President's Office have both been "very supportive." Given the activism and awareness of the Hamilton community speakers at this event, such support seems indicative of the values of this institution.

PROFESSOR PROFILE
Seth Major, Physics

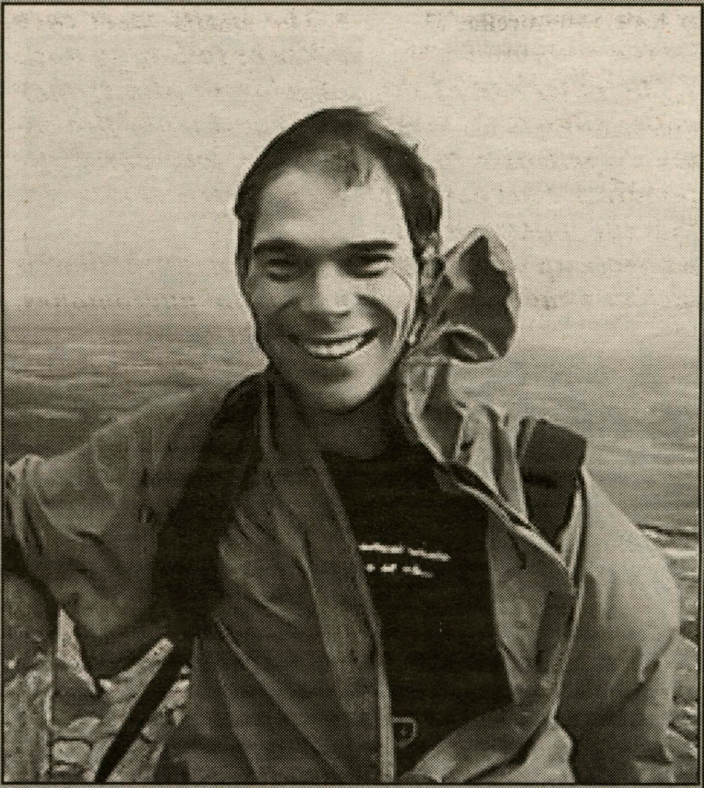


PHOTO COURTESY OF SETH MAJOR

THE FACTS:

Name: Seth Major
Department: Physics
College: Swarthmore
Graduate School: Pennsylvania State University
Experience: Visiting Fellow at the University of Vienna, Visiting Professor at Swarthmore
Research: Quantum gravity

INTERVIEW SECTION:

Elijah LaChance: If you were to describe yourself in three words, what would they be? (Can't use the words "me," I," or "am.")

Seth Major: Food. Physics. Dance.

EL: What areas of physics most interest you and why?

SM: Quantum theory and general relativity. These are both technically and conceptually rich subjects that seemingly hold an endless fascination. These two fields of physics are structurally extremely different and yet many expect that we should be able to combine them! I expect that the unravelling of this problem of quantum gravity will involve some really interesting and weird physics. Who wouldn't be curious in the outcome?

EL: How did you eventually choose to teach physics for a living?

SM: I thought my educational experience at Swarthmore was great - working closely with professors and with classmates. In grad school I found I enjoyed research in theoretical physics and much of the teaching. Seeing the educational experience at a research university convinced me that the best place was a small liberal arts college.

EL: Why Hamilton?

SM: It is a small liberal arts college with a wonderful physics department. Hamilton even has snow (at least during most winters)!

EL: What is your funniest/most embarrassing childhood memory that you wouldn't mind sharing?

SM: My second eldest brother invited me to visit him at a well-known institution of higher learning in Cambridge, MA. After dinner his friends instructed me to put all my flatware and plates back where I found them. So off I went, stuffing my used fork back with all the clean ones... The table was an uproar when I returned.

EL: Do you have any habits students might notice? If so, what are they?

SM: Walking or biking up the Hill on most mornings.

EL: What is your favorite band/singer, your favorite ice cream flavor, your favorite book, and your favorite home-cooked meal?

SM: Alasdair Fraser (he is coming to Hamilton next week!!). Black Raspberry. Currently, *A Portrait of a Lady* by Henry James, closely followed by *Ten Minutes to Bedtime* by Peggy Rathmann. There are so many! Tonight I would make (if I had time) Chole and Nan. As an undergraduate this was what my apartment-mate and I would make after Quantum Applications seminar on Wednesdays.

EL: What would you say is your teaching style, and what can students expect who are in your classes?

SM: I lecture and lead seminars. The styles are necessarily very different, but students can expect multiple appearances of whales.

EL: What was the craziest thing you did in college you wouldn't mind sharing?

SM: A dance class usually finished up about 1 AM in a nearby town. The shortest way back to campus was across a railway bridge. Walking across this bridge - the height! - the (possible) trains! - was not the most sane route home.

EL: Other than the Science Center, where can students expect to see you on campus?

SM: Opus, the glen, and the child care center.

EL: What are your current research interests, and how are students working with you on them?

SM: In recent years I have focused on possible observational consequences of quantum geometry - a possible structure for space on the smallest scales. With Walter Schoen, Yubo Lu, and Alice Francis I have started a model for gravitational waves originating in the early universe. Michael Gregg and I worked through modifications of the Chandrasekhar mass limit for white dwarf stars. Tim Minella, Sean McGovern, and I have worked on a toy model of dynamics in 3-D quantum gravity. I am also working on causal sets - more quantum gravity stuff.

EL: What is your fondest memory from your time at Hamilton?

SM: Ah, this is too hard to select so here are a few: Hearing the announcement of Auger data last November with Tomasz Konopka '02. The new data constrained the parameters of our model, effectively ruling out one type of quantum gravity correction. Isla, my daughter, first saying "pterodactyl" complete with sound effects. Being in seminar when Greg Armstrong '06 powered through a beautiful description of perturbation theory in quantum mechanics. Val Valant was literally bouncing off the floor in delight over her Phys 100 final.

Barton Garnet Mine

*from **Adirondacks**, page 15*

still digging up garnets from the same deposit. The crater had been hewn out by men and women who worked here for over a hundred years extracting garnets from the surrounding rock.

Our tour guide informed us of the mines' history. The Barton mines were discovered by Henry Hudson Barton in 1866 when he was camping in central New York. He was walking in the woods and found pieces of garnet that he brought back to New York City to test. He then bought the land the mines now rest on, hired workers, and started digging. Barton established the mines in 1878 and by the 1890s, Barton's mines were among the largest and most heavily automated mines of the time. Over the years, the Barton mines saw the use of handpicks, drills, excavators, and dynamite. It is unlikely, however, that any of these techniques inspired more awe than the garnets that were extracted.

The most common test of a gemstone is the Mohs hardness test. Diamond is rated a "ten" on the scale, and a "one" can be scratched with a fingernail. Most garnets rate a "seven" on the scale, but Barton's garnets rated a "nine." Barton had discovered what came to be known as the almandine garnet, a harder variation on the stone. In addition to being harder, the garnets in the mines tended to be cracked. As a result, relatively few large gemstones are found in the mines, and those that were were often of inferior quality for jewelry. Nevertheless, Barton made his fortune of the garnets.

With the advent of the mechanical sander, the traditional glass used on sandpaper was found to be too soft to withstand much labor. Carpenters were looking for a more effective sandpaper, and coating the paper with crushed garnet from Barton's mines gave exactly what they were looking for. In addition, large chunks of stone with embedded garnet crystals were extracted whole from the mines and used for fireplaces, walkways, and kitchen counters. The Garnet Stone Company continues this market today. If you look on the sides of some of the older roads in central New York, garnets will sparkle back at you; in addition to their other uses, crushed garnets from the Barton mines were used to increase traction on the road much like sand is used today.

Armed with knowledge but wholly unprepared for the experience that awaited us, my family and I took pails and plastic bags and headed toward the pond. Scooping water from the pond, we threw our pails of water on the shore and gasped audibly as the sand turned red beneath our feet. Just like with the sand at the visitors' center, small red garnet crystals winked up at us, but now they covered the shore like a blanket and in untold numbers. We leapt to pick up the largest of the crystals, even finding one as large as a marble. For twenty minutes, we worked as quickly and energetically as we could, pausing only to exclaim in wonder at each new find.

When our tour guide called us back, we loaded back into the van, our bags full of garnets, our shoes full of sand, and our heads full of memories. At the visitors' center, we paid a dollar a pound for the garnets we'd collected. Together, we'd collected a pound and a quarter, so our total came to only $1.25! We also realized Hamilton College was not unknown at the mine. One of the tour guides is a freshman this year, and several others have attended the college over the years. Furthermore, Professor Barbara Tewksbury from the Geosciences Department brings a class to the mines every couple of years. As I sit at my desk writing this article, I can see some of the garnet pieces I collected on that vacation sitting on one of my garnet-studded coasters. I have to smile, remembering the delight I felt in discovering a piece of one of Nature's – and New York's – best-kept secrets.

Did You Know That?
Wacky Facts for Valentine's Day

by Kate Tummarello '11
Science & Technology Editor

• The antennae of the male silkworm moth are so sensitive to the female's pheromones that the male can find a female up to ten kilometers away.

• The female Midshipman fish lights up when she is ready to mate. The male spots her, grunts, and, if she approaches, starts flashing hot pink.

• Pipestrelle bats use ultrasound not only to navigate but also for the male's courtship dance. The louder and more frequent the male's calls are, the more the female falls under the spell.

• Roman snails are hermaphrodites, but they still have to be a pair to reproduce.

• The snails meet each other by following trails of odorous slime; then they entwine and fire calcareous love darts into each other's skin.

• Human attraction is based on pheromones, naturally occurring chemical substances that are sensed by an organ in the nasal passage which sends a message to the brain and triggers a specific mating response. Smells sexy!

• In humans, falling in love causes a drop in serotonin levels, an increased production of cortisol, and a suppression of the neural circuits. The three combined effects make us become obsessed, lose sleep, and care less about social judgment.

• A good laugh can cause the lining of the blood vessel walls to relax, increasing blood flow for up to forty five minutes after the laugh.

• By contrast, hearing depressing news can cause a release of stress hormones into the bloodstream that literally "stun" the heart. The symptoms of this include chest pain and shortness of breath.

• In a seventy year lifetime, the average human heart beats more than 2.5 billion times.

• The aorta, the largest artery in the body, is almost the diameter of a garden hose. Capillaries, on the other hand, are so small that it takes ten of them to equal the thickness of a human hair.

Happy Valentine's Day!

What's on the Web This Week: NewScientist.com

by Kate Tummarello '11
Science & Technology Editor

Rating: (out of 5 beakers)

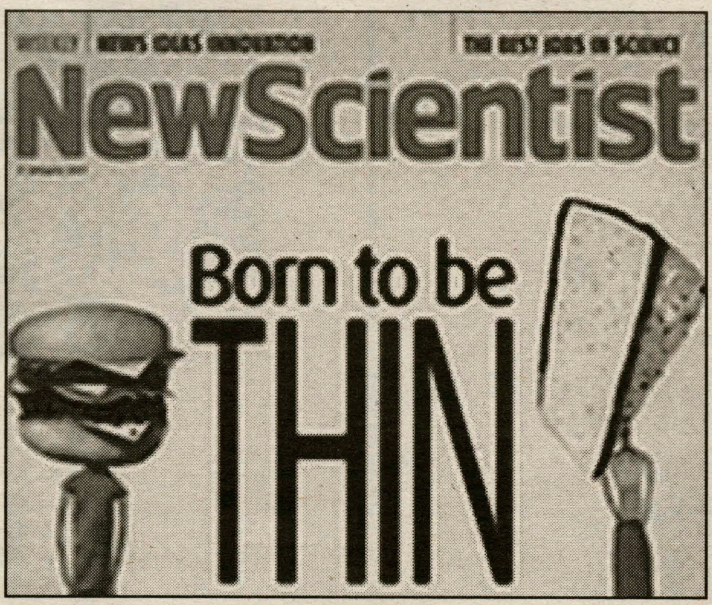
You may have quickly glanced at or even read through the older print issues or the newer online issues of the magazine New Scientist at the library. If so, you have found a collection of interesting articles covering a wide array of topics. You can find these same articles online at the New Scientist website, NewScientist.com.

Despite the seemingly overcrowded homepage, the website is actually organized in a simplistic way that makes it easy to navigate. From the homepage you can find articles by subject or by searching by title. These articles range in topic from space exploration to protecting the environment. Along with searching for individual articles, you can also select an article from the featured articles on the homepage. Recently on the homepage, NewScientist.com has featured articles related to holograms and articles discussing the gum-deteriorating side effects of smoking marijuana (their words, not mine.)

One of the downsides to NewScientist.com is that it is a magazine and runs with the motive of making a profit. Not only does the site contain a great deal of ads for the magazine, it also limits the number of articles that are able to be seen by people who do not have a subscription to the magazine. While many of the articles can be seen in full without a subscription, the people behind NewScientist.com like to tease us by offering us snippets of interesting articles that we cannot actually read in full.

Even after you've read all of the articles that are viewable without a subscription, there is more reading available. NewScientist.com hosts blogs on the topics it carries articles on as well. In the technology blog you can find articles about things like old cell phones becoming controlling mechanisms for robots. It's in the short sharp science that your political views may be changed when you hear NewScientist.com compare Barack Obama to a Mac and Hilary Clinton to a PC. It's also in the Blog section of the site that you can find information about a nanotube x-ray enhancer in the invention blog and information on Saturn-visualizing software in the space blog.

NewScientist.com offers a large amount of interesting information, even without a subscription. If reading just is not your thing, there are a bunch of videos on the general news roundup from the week. Looking for something less recent? Their archives date all the way back to 1989. And if there is an article that really grabs you, but you cannot view without a subscription, you can always access the magazine through the library database.



NEWSCIENTIST.COM

This cover from January 2007 displays an article about a laboratory approach to studying fast food.

SCI & TECH EVENTS CALENDAR

MONDAY, FEB. 11:
Dr. Ernest Williams, Biology Dept., Hamilton College
"The Migration of Monarch Butterflies to Mexico: Why They Form Dense Colonies"
4:00 p.m. SCCT 3024
Refreshments will be served

TUESDAY, FEB. 12:
David O. Stovall, PhD.
"Race and Racism in Education"
12:00 noon, SCCT G027

TUESDAY, FEB. 12:
HEAG Meeting
7:00 p.m. Glen House

SATURDAY, FEB. 16:
Workshop: Proper Pruning Practices and Hazard Tree Identification
10:00 a.m., SCCT G027

TUESDAY, FEB. 19:
Students for International Public Health Awareness (SFIPHA) Meeting
8:00 p.m. Location TBA
Interested? Contact sfipha@hamilton.edu

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 20:
DSJP Lecture: "Bringing the Body Back into Testimony: Disability and the Problem of Voice"
7:30 p.m. Red Pit

Remember, Recylemania is on!

Hamilton is one of 400 colleges across the country participating in Recyclemania. This contest, sponsored by the EPA, encourages waste reduction and waste minimization with a friendly challenge to improve campus recycling. The Recycling Task Force will be assisting with our effort.

You are as green as you act.

SCIENCE CANNOT RESOLVE MORAL CONFLICTS, BUT IT CAN HELP TO MORE ACCURATELY FRAME THE DEBATES ABOUT THOSE CONFLICTS.
~HEINZ PAGELS

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Pizza
Small Cheese....$7.00
Each Item........$1.00

Large Cheese..$10.50
Each Item.......$1.50

Super Pie...$16.00
Each Item...$2.00

Slice..............$1.25
Each Item........$.25
*Items: pepperoni, sausage, meatballs, bacon, ham, mushrooms, onions, peppers, eggplant, hot peppers, pineapple, olives, spinach, broccoli

Chicken Wing Pizza
Small.....$9.00
Large...$14.50
Super...$22.50

Calzones........$6.50
(Includes 2 items)
Each Additional
Item.............. $.75

Appetizers
Chicken
Tenders....$5.95
Mozzarella
Sticks...$4.95
French Fries.........$2.25
Garlic Bread.........$1.50
Fried Dough..........$2.25

Dinner
Stuffed Shells.......$6.50
Manicotti.............$6.50
Eggplant Parm.....$7.95
Lasagna..............$7.95
**All dinners served w/ side salad and garlic bread

Garden Salad
Small....2.00
Large...3.75

Fish
Fresh haddock Fish
Fry....$7.95
*Every Firday 5pm
Until We Sell Out

Cold Subs
Small.....$4.50
Large....$5.95
*Roast Turkey, baked Ham, Roast Beef, Salami, Tuna Salad
Hot Subs
Small....$4.75
Large...$6.25
*Chicken Club, Chicken Parm, Meatball, Sausage, Steak
Sausage, Steak

Fish
Fresh haddock Fish
Fry....$7.95
*Every Firday 5pm
Until We Sell Out

Antipasto
Small......$4.25
Large......$5.75

Wings
1.5lbs........$5.95
2.5lbs........$9.00
3.5lbs.......$12.00
4.5lbs......$14.75
5.5lbs......$18.50

Specials
Small Pizza & 2.5lbs wings $13.95
Large Pizza & 2.5lbs Wings $18.50
Large Pizza & 5.5lbs Wings $23.00
Super Pie &5.5lbs Wings $32.95

In Celebration of Black History Month
Hamilton College presents:

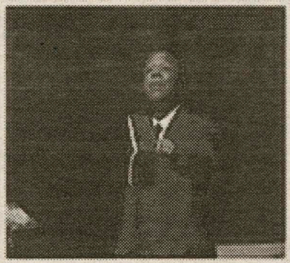
A Seminar on the Life of

James Baldwin

featuring Actor Calvin Levels

Friday, February 22, 2008 • 3:00 p.m.
Tolles Pavilion (Annex)

James Baldwin: Down from the Mountaintop
An Original Solo Play Written and Performed by Calvin Levels
Produced by Staged Dreams



Saturday, February 23, 2008 • 7:30 p.m.
Events Barn • Free Admission

For more information go to: www.JamesBaldwinPlay.com
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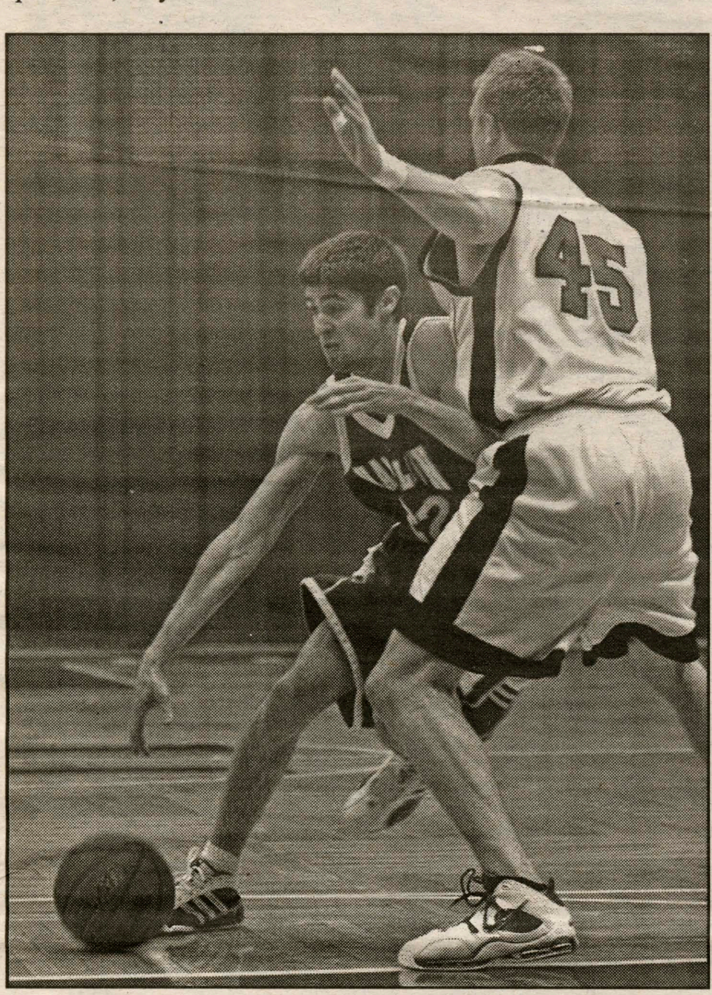
Unsung Hero: The Ballad of Robert Toste '08

by Tom Monfiletto '08
Sports Writer

Ron Harper, Jud Buechler, Nazr Mohammad. Do these names ring a bell? To the average sports fan, they shouldn't. But these three NBA players managed to sustain extremely successful careers without getting the notoriety that they deserved. Each of these players exemplifies a tremendous leader with unquestionable heart and devotion to the game of basketball. They have all played for more than three championship teams: teams that would not have won without their input on a daily basis.



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Toste puts on his game face as he drives to the basket.

On February 3, the Hamilton Men's Basketball Team defeated the defending Liberty League Champion St. Lawrence Saints. The Saints, whose nickname was obviously created by an extremely lazy individual, fought to stay in the game, but proved to be outmatched in the final minutes.

One can talk about Jay Simpson's '10 continued dominance on both ends of the court, or the consistent play of Ramunas Rozygys '09, or even the ability of Joe Manns '10 to go coast-to-coast like Tim Hardaway. However, I want to focus on the play of a certain individual that was crucial in the victory against the Saints, and has been crucial to the Continentals' sustained success over the past four years.

With eleven minutes left, Robert Toste '08 entered the game and handed his rolled up towel to Harlee Wood '09, an odd ritual that is carried out during every substitution. Toste immediately made his presence felt. He took the ball at the top of the key and drove into the lane as the three defenders flocked to him like teenage girls flock to Ashley Parker Angel. He then dished it out to a wide open Simpson, who has never missed a basket in his entire life. Simpson drained a three-pointer to put the Continentals up by six - a lead they would not relinquish.

Minutes later, Toste came up with a huge steal that threw a dagger into the hearts of the Saints. Chants of "We Love Toast" filled the fieldhouse.

Before arriving at Hamilton, Robert Toste enjoyed a superstar caliber high school career at Monroe Woodbury Senior High School in Highland Mills, New York. On national signing day, Rob had to make a tough decision between University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Syracuse University and Hamilton College. He decided to be a Continental.

Since he's been at Hamilton, Toste has been nothing short of outstanding in many different ways. He routinely shows up to practice hours beforehand to work on his shot. He spends countless hours watching film to improve his game and prepare for his next opponent.

He works as a leader on and off the court, as he maintains a commendable GPA with a strenuous course schedule. If he is in the game or on the bench, Toste is the first person to congratulate his teammate. Many refer to him as "the best teammate since Pee Wee Reese."

Whether it be diving after a loose ball or running sprints in practice, Toste puts every ounce of effort into everything that he does. He is not a regular starter and there are some games where he does not play at all. In either situation, Toste does everything that he can to help his team win. He never pouts or complains. He remains disciplined and keeps a positive attitude that reverberates to the entire team. He serves as a role model not only to his teammates, but also to athletes throughout the college.

One cannot coach heart, one cannot coach devotion, and one cannot coach fortitude. These three attributes are the key attributes of a winner. These attributes make Robert Toste a winner- on the court and off. Like Buechler, Harper, and Mohammad, Toste has played a vital role in the success of his team. Although his efforts may fly under the radar like the efforts of these three NBA players, his contributions to Hamilton's basketball program will be appreciated forever.

Everyone can learn some valuable lessons from Rob. There have been many student-athletes that have simply given up because of a lack of playing time or because of some minor instances of adversity. My message to you is this: if you ever think about quitting something that you love, first think about Robert Toste, and try to follow by his example.

Women's Hockey Team Looks to Continue Win Streak

by Brandon Leibsohn '10
Sports Editor

After going through a rough patch during the middle of the season, the Lady Continentals have put together a string of three great games. They have stepped up their play on the ice and have been capitalizing more often on their scoring opportunities. Consistent effort and energy from the players have given the spark that they needed to finish out the remainder of their season strong.

On January 26, the women's ice hockey team traveled to SUNY Plattsburgh to take on the number two-ranked team in the country. The final score of the game, a 6-3 defeat, did not reflect how tremendously Hamilton played. The first period of the game remained close even with the huge differential in shots.

SUNY controlled the puck all game long and took 55 shots on goal. Yet, it had trouble converting on the power play against the improved Continental defensive unit.

Lauren Tomford '10 took over in the third period with two goals. She continued to demonstrate why she is one of the top contributors on the team. The other goal that Hamilton scored came from defenseman Kate Marek '09. Meg Shine '10 had to face pressure all night long, but she remained poised and made a number of spectacular saves.

Another road contest against nationally ranked Amherst turned out more favorable for the Continentals. The team put together one of their best games of the year to earn a 2-2 tie against their number six-ranked NESCAC foe. Hamilton managed to get only 13 shots on net, but they made each one count.

Marek gave the team the lead with her third goal of the season. After Amherst tied the game at one, Kathryn Kroleski '09 converted a scoring opportunity to break the tie. The third period ended in a disappointing fashion as Amherst forced the game into overtime with a late goal.

The player of the game had to be Shine, who played so well in stopping 46 shots on net. She gave the team an opportunity to remain in the game against a heavily favored opponent.

The last game during this stretch came the following day at Connecticut College. In a thriller, the Continentals scored in overtime to collect a 4-3 victory. Cindy Lukianchuk '11 played at her best and took advantage of her scoring chances to break two ties in the first and second periods. She scored twice and Stephanie Miguel '11 put in another puck less than a minute after they took the 2-1 lead.

The power play unit let up two goals to Connecticut and the game went into overtime. Having played in overtime the day before, Hamilton knew what it had to do to squeak out a win. Amy Allen '10 helped the power play squad redeem itself when she scored for the fifth time this season.

For her great play last week, Shine took home the NESCAC Player of the Week award. She let up only five goals during two games to give Hamilton a chance on the road. She improved her save percentage and now is ranked in the top 10 in the conference.

This weekend, Hamilton will be playing at home for the first time since January 12. Bowdoin and Colby come in with the number five spot in the conference on the line.

The Continentals are currently in sixth place, but with two wins against the fifth and seventh best teams, they have a shot at moving up on the charts. So come out to Sage Rink to watch your team win tonight against NESCAC rival Bowdoin at 7 p.m.

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Lauren Tomford '10 leads the team with eleven goals.

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H SPECTATOR SPORTS

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Swimming and Diving Teams Host RPI Saturday

by Erin Hoener '10
Managing Editor

From San Juan to Schenectady, Hamilton College Swimmers and Divers have been extremely busy over the last two months. While most students were still at home enjoying home-cooked meals and free laundry, the Hamilton College Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving teams were in Puerto Rico practicing twice a day and competing against other colleges and universities from the United States.

Returning from the fun and sun of Puerto Rico, the Continentals headed to Vermont to take on the Middlebury Ephs. Unfortunately, Hamilton fell to the sixth ranked women's NCAA Division III team 166-112 and twenty-third ranked men's team 171-110.

The Continentals also fell short in Schenectady, losing to the Union Dutchmen. The score of the men's meet was 131-98 and the score of the women's meet was 139-102.

The Continentals had great success at home in the Bristol Pool against the Saints from St. Lawrence University.

The men's team was able to put away all swimming and diving events in the dual meet. Jake DeConinck '11 won both the 200-yard freestyle and the 100-yard freestyle, while Bowie Sievers '11 won both the 400-yard individual medley and the 500-yard freestyle and Zak Krassin '11 won both the 3m and 1m diving events. Jason Brown '09, Alex Paridon '09, Chris DeConinck '11, Todd Johnson '08 and Jared Mereness '10 each contributed one individual victory to Hamilton's decisive win.

The women's team also cleaned up, winning nine of the meet's events. Whitney Rosenbaum '10 led the team, finishing first in three events: the 200-yard freestyle, the 500-yard freestyle and the 100-yard butterfly. Olivia Reynolds '08 and Anna Chelius '11 each added two individual victories to the Continental's win. Reynolds won the 50 and 100 yard freestyle events, while Chelius won both the 1m and 3m diving events. Liz Bucceri '11 added a victory in the 1000-yard freestyle and Kylie Fraser '11 took first place in the 400-yard individual medley.

Today the Hamilton swimmers and divers are heading up the road to Syracuse to take on the Le Moyne College Dolphins. The Continentals return to the Hill on Saturday February 9 to host Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute at 2 p.m. Hopefully the Bristol Pool proves lucky once more for the Continental's last home meet of the season. This will be the last home meet and a chance to honor the two seniors on the men's team and six seniors on the women's team.

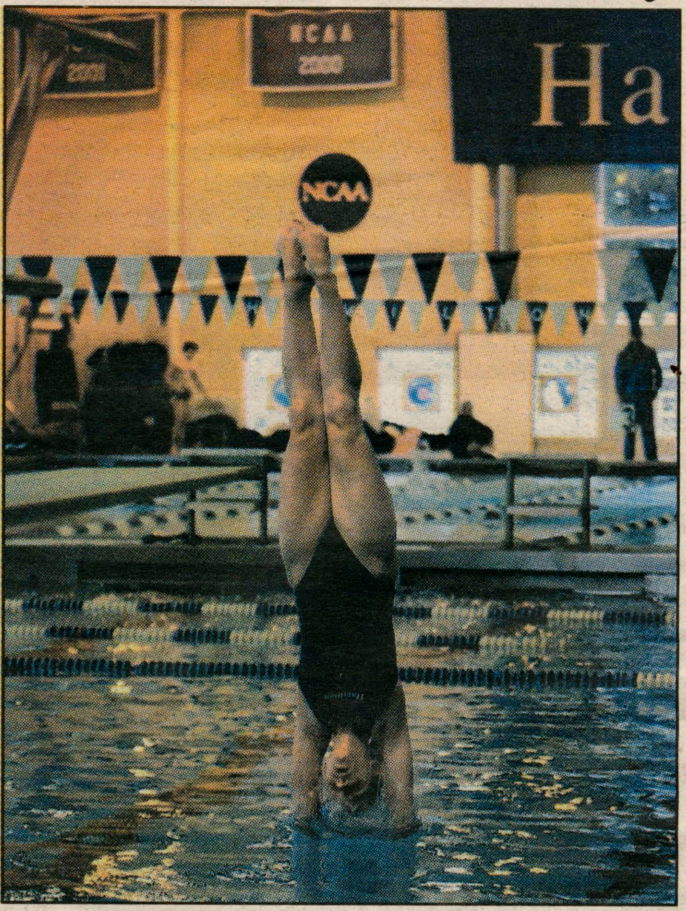

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN HUBBARD

Anna Chelius '11 shows perfect form while diving against St. Lawrence University.

This Weekend in Hamilton Athletics:

Friday 2/8:

Swimming and Diving (M) @ Le Moyne
Swimming and Diving (W) @ Le Moyne
Basketball (W) v. Rensselaer
Basketball (M) v. Rensselaer
Hockey (M) @ Bowdoin
Hockey (W) v. Bowdoin

Saturday 2/7:

Indoor Track and Field (M) @ Cornell University Open
Indoor Track and Field (W) @ Cornell University Open
Swimming and Diving (M) v. Rensselaer
Swimming and Diving (W) v. Rensselaer
Basketball (W) v. Vassar
Basketball (M) v. Vassar
Hockey (W) v. Colby
Hockey (M) @ Colby

Go Blue!

Track Teams Excel During Meets

by Andrew Harris '11
Sports Writer

After a lengthy winter break that allowed the men's and women's indoor track teams to rest and recuperate, it was back to business again for the Continentals at the RIT Invitational Meet on January 19. With only one meet, that took place at Cornell University, under their belts, the squads were eager to test the competition.

At RIT, sophomore sensation Peter Kosgei '10 impressively led the way. Kosgei shattered the Hamilton College record in the 3,000 meters, winning in a time of 8:26.22, which broke the old mark, set in 1981, by almost 13 seconds. In the field events, James Russell '09 finished second in the pole vault with a jump of 4.25 meters. Bill Kearney '08 provided a well-rounded performance, taking third in the shot put and fourth in the weight throw.

On the women's side, Kary Pardy '08 bettered her Hamilton record indoor mark in the weight throw with a throw of 14.51 meters. Pardy finished third in the event, which was good enough to qualify her for the Eastern College Athletic Conference Division III Championships. Akilah Bond '09 took second place in the triple jump, and Liz Wahl '10 finished third in the 200 meter dash. Amanda Salisburg '08 rounded out the effort with a third place finish in the pole vault.

The following week, the teams traveled to Colgate for the twentieth annual Class of 1932 Invitational. The men's team finished fifth out of eleven teams, and was again led by Kosgei. He broke school records in the mile and 800 meters, running times of 4:09.31 and 1:55.05, respectively. His mile time qualified him for the NCAA Division III Indoor Championships, which will take place at Ohio Northern University in the spring. Kearney won the shot-put event with a throw of 13.97 meters, and Greg Fullman '09 took fourth place in the 500 meters.

The women's team gave a strong performance as well, finishing third. Bond tied for first place in the triple jump and won the long jump, events in which she is the Hamilton record holder. Jess DiMichiel '08 was second in the 20 pound weight throw and third in the pole vault with a mark of 2.90 meters. Alexandra Americanos '10 broke a twenty-year-old school record in the 55 meter dash with a time of 7.60 seconds; good enough for fourth place. In the 800 meter run, the team displayed its depth, with Sarah Caney '09 and Maddy Gunter '11 capturing third and fourth, respectively.

For their efforts at the Colgate meet, several track athletes were honored with Liberty League awards. Kosgei was named a Men's co-Track Performer of the week. In addition, he was named as the Division III Track Athlete of the week. Americanos picked up a Women's co-Track Performer of the week for her results, and Bond won the equivalent honor for field events by taking home the Women's co-Field Performer of the week.

Following Colgate, the teams competed at the Syracuse Invitational on February 2. Kosgei continued his success and broke another record, breaking the 1000 meter mark by six seconds en route to another victory. It was his fifth broken record of the season, a remarkable accomplishment, and led to his announcement as the Liberty League Track Performer of the Week. Also impressive was Scott Bickard '11, who was the top Division III performer in the 5000 meters with a time of 16:01.89, good enough for third place.

Meredith Fitzpatrick '11 ensured that the women's team would have success as well. She finished sixth in the mile run with a time of 5:22.93, which was over 21 seconds faster than her time the previous week. Pardy finished fourth in the weight throw, and Salisburg tied for fourth in the pole vault.

The two teams resume competition this weekend at the Cornell University Open in Ithaca, NY.